

gent:

# Ghent's food policy: setting a leading example through a participative approach

Zurich - 5/11/2019

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# 5 strategic goals

1. A more visible, shorter food supply chain
2. More sustainable food production and consumption
3. Stronger social value for food initiatives
4. Reduce food waste
5. Reuse food waste and maximize its potential



# A more visible, shorter food supply chain

- Improve access to local markets for producers
- Bring consumers and producers closer together
- Space for food production



# A more visible, shorter food supply chain

- From pragmatic quick-wins to strategic, structural approach
  - Short chain competition
  - Vanier
- Participative trajectories
  - Working group short food supply chains
- Space for food production
  - Sharing gardens
  - 'De Goedinge' at city-owned land



# More sustainable food production and consumption

- Sustainable production methods
- Consumers buy sustainable products
- Organisations and businesses buy sustainable products and services
- Sustainable food at events



# More sustainable food production and consumption

- Coaching through helpdesk (moestdazo), coaching for school gardens and neighbourhood gardens
- Sustainable school meals
  - Procurement criteria
  - Educational work
- Thursday Veggiedag
  - More difficult target groups
  - Workshops in schools



# Stronger social value for food initiatives

- Social employment
- Social cohesion
- Access to affordable, sustainable, healthy food
  - Bridging sustainability and health
- Education and knowledge building:
  - Agriculture, short chains, business models
  - Hunger? Food deserts? Determinants?
- Transgenerational gardens



# Reduce food waste

- From quick wins eg Restorestje to structural solution for food surpluses: Foodsavers Gent
  - 1.000.000 kg surpluses
  - 57.000 citizens in poverty
  - 530.821 portions
  - 106 social organisations
  - 2.419 ton CO2
- Potential in awareness raising on buying, storing and transforming food





# Reuse food waste and maximize its potential

- Improved waste collection of fruit & vegetables
- Smart reuse of fruit & vegetable waste
  - Adopt a chicken
  - Pigs on wastelands
  - Composting
- Big potential at restaurants and caterers



# Overarching initiatives

- MUFPP, RUAFA, FAO, WHO
- Forum gentengarde.be, social media, ...

## Food policy council

- Multi-sector policy making
  - setting operational goals
  - defining indicators
  - advise pilot projects and city initiatives
  - ambassadors
- Budget authority for supporting new innovative projects



# Role of the city

- Strategic framework
- Online and offline hub
- Fasten and strengthen dynamics
  - Knowledge building and sharing eg coaching for vegetable gardens
  - Subsidies, competitions eg short chain competition
- Behavioral change
  - Thursday Veggeday
  - Restorestje
- Own initiatives eg Foodsavers Gent
- Start up support eg Vanier
- Importance of cocreation
- Pioneering worldwide

Global Climate Action

United Nations Climate Change





# Thank you



Global Climate Action  
United Nations Climate Change



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