

Ghent en Garde

STOEMP!



Role of the city

- Transforming the food system at local urban level, through a local **food policy**
- Secure access to sustainable, healthy and affordable food.

Ghent: 261.053 inhabitants



5 strategic goals

1. Shorter, more visible food chain
2. More sustainable food production and consumption
3. Creation of more social added value for food initiatives
4. Reduce food waste
5. Optimum reuse of food waste as raw materials

How it works

- Led by city administration
- Food council: representatives of the different phases of the food system, e.g.: large-scale farmers, new urban farmers, local businesses, local volunteering initiatives, civil society, knowledge centers and experts.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=3&v=NdsossBvv-4

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= A network of existing **‘good food’ initiatives** with the goal of making healthy, sustainable food accessible for everyone.

→ ‘Good food’ = healthy, nutritious, local, with respect for environment, enough, tasteful and honest

E.g. Food Savers, Wijze Weters (‘Wise Knowers’); community garden initiatives; initiatives that aim to encourage local catering and retailers to apply short supply chains.



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Why is good food currently not for **everyone**?

5 B's (in Dutch):

1. Available (Beschikbaar)
2. Reachable (Bereikbaar)
3. Conscious (Bewust)
4. Affordable (Betaalbaar)
5. Unifying (verBindend)



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Strategic goals that aim to reach policy, civil society, local economy and citizens:

1. Raise awareness about access to good food
2. Inspire and activate to work individually or together on good food
3. Connect and strengthen initiatives to reach bigger impact

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- Supported by local politics
- Collaboration between two policy domains
 - Department of Climate and Environment (Dep C&E)
 - Department of Welfare and equal opportunities

Responds to both:

- Dep C&E & the Food Council's quest to define "the social value of healthy and sustainable food", and to tackle the structural causes of food poverty,
- Community Health Centers desire to work on access to healthy food.



STOEMP's actions

- Launch of working group → stakeholders from different disciplines such as education, civil society, research and social welfare.
 - E.g. bringing together data to improve insights in where the challenges are and what would be the best actions for the local community to tackle food poverty.



Success factors

- Political support
- Enthusiasm and motivation to work together with different partners
- Same goals
- Concrete actions to work on

Ambitions

- Implement STOEMP further
 - Make it visible for more partners, like local economy
 - Embedding in political priorities and further connecting health & sustainability
- More participation of end users

Thank you!



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