

# BRUSSELS-CAPITAL REGION

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# Outline

- Brussels-Capital Region
  - Health competences & structure
  - Health Strategies for Brussels-Capital Region
    - o Brussels-Capital Health and Social Observatory
    - o Brussels Healthy City (Region)
    - o 19 municipalities
    - o Community structures
    - o Civil society...
  - Brussels Regional Development Plan
  - Federal Plans (Sustainable Development...)
- Regional Health Observatory of Hainaut

# The Brussels-Capital Region

- Definition of a region?
  - Constitutional definition, functional entity
    - ⇒ Uniformity?
    - ⇒ Several levels of political & social structures
  - Characteristics of Brussels as an urban environment
    - ⇒ Complexity of different neighbourhoods (within the municipalities)
    - ⇒ Physical & social environment (unemployment, social exclusion, deterioration of the quality of life)
    - ⇒ Ageing population & baby boom, social inequality, high illiteracy, specific health risks...
    - ⇒ Multiculturalism & multilingualism



# Health competences & structure of the Brussels-Capital Region

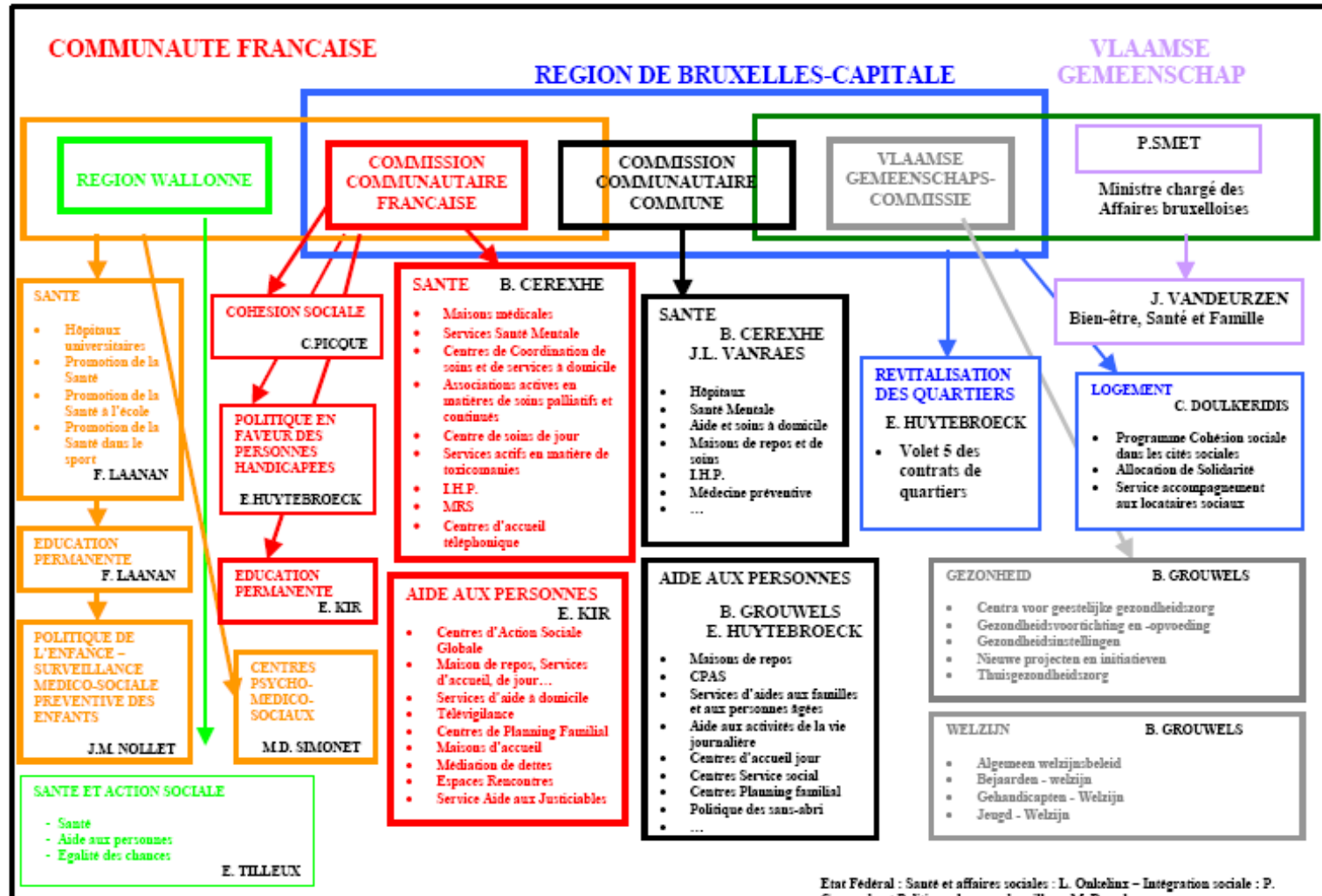
- Brussels Regional Government
- Flemish community and French Community in Belgium have jurisdiction in so-called community areas such as health, culture, education, and assistance services
- Federal Government
- 19 districts: the district (municipality) is the administrative level closest to the people

# Health competences & structure of the Brussels-Capital Region

- **3 special institutions** have been set up to enable the two Communities (French & Flemish) to pursue community policies relating specifically to Brussels, limited to the territory of the 19 municipalities:
  - The Commission of the French-Speaking Community (COCOF)
  - The Commission of the Flemish Community (VGC)
  - The Joint Community Commission (COCOM)
- Brussels-Capital **Health and Social Observatory** (BHSO)

# Health competences & Structure of the Brussels-Capital Region

QUI FAIT QUOI EN SANTE ET EN SOCIAL A BRUXELLES ?



Etat Federal : Santé et affaires sociales : L. Onkelinx - Intégration sociale : P. Courard - et Politique des grandes villes : M. Daerden

# Brussels-Capital

## Health and Social Observatory

- gathers, analyses and publishes information (e.g. indicators) about health intended to help decision-making for the various actors involved in Brussels health policies (politicians, professionals, associations, etc.)
- lends its expertise to actors through various activities
- in its role as a **research centre** for the **Joint Community Commission**, the Observatory actively participates as technical representative for Brussels in working groups of the Inter-ministerial Health Conference

- **The Commission of the Flemish Community (VGC)**
  - Local social policy - social cohesion
  - Local health intersectoral networking = Logo (health promotion) : 6 Flemish Health objectives (nutrition...)
  - House of health (Huis voor Gezondheid) = Brussels health care network  
a website for citizens (zorgzoeker)
- **The Commission of the French-Speaking community (COCOF)**
  - Social cohesion
  - Children & youngsters, the elderly, disabled people
  - Health services
  - Healthy nutrition
  - + Local health intersectoral networking = CLPS



# Brussels Healthy City-Region

- "**governance**" based on 3 elements:
  - **Partnership**: a cooperation between various actors on different levels:
    - vertical (responsibilities on EU, national, regional, municipality and local level) and
    - horizontal (tuning of competences on the same administrative level)
  - **Transversal**: a co-ordinating approach of different issues taking into account the interactions between them
  - The active **participation** of the stakeholders, in particular the local inhabitants

# Brussels Healthy City-Region

- The **methodology** rests on 3 axes:
  1. to draw up a **diagnosis** of the health situation, with the participation of the inhabitants and/or users of the districts
  2. the development of **local projects** related to the health determinants in a broad sense (environment, physical, mental and social health)
  3. the introduction of **exchanges of practices** between operators and inhabitants

# Brussels Healthy City-Region

- **Principles:**
  1. **Strong links between health and the quality of the environment** (political, economic, housing, transport...) **and life** (life styles...)
  2. **Bottom-up approach**, based on local projects developed by the inhabitants: visits of the neighbourhood, panel discussions, exchanges with local actors and politicians and plans for action with the local operators ⇔ recommendations to decision-makers on a higher level (e.g. RDP)

# 19 municipalities



- Abundant activities
  - Screenings and vaccinations
  - Actions against obesity, smoking, cancer...
  - Healthy schools

in combination or not with other actors of the community structure and the civil society

- Medical Centres (Maisons médicales)
- Public social welfare centre (OCMW-CPAS)

...



# Community structures

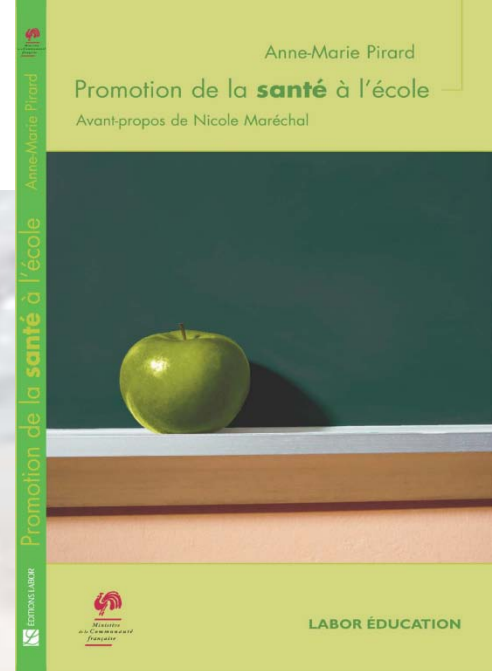
- Social and community development (Samenlevingsopbouw): housing, health – Brabant quarter
- Intercultural mediation (Foyer)
- Plate-form poverty (Platform armoede)

**Principles:** active participation of inhabitants, transversal, partnership, intersectoral

- Urban policy program
- District contracts

# Health promotion Communities

- Information
  - Education
  - Trainings
- 
- VIGez & Services PSE (Promotion de la Santé à l'Ecole)
  - Civil society: women associations (KAV), asbl cactus - Cureghem

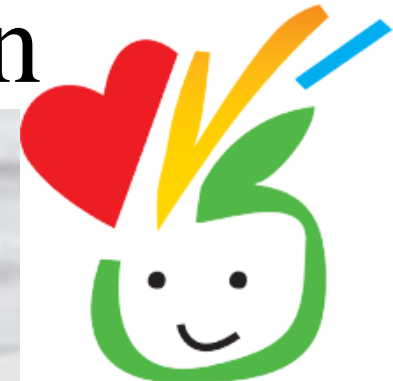


# Brussels

## Regional Development Plan

- Since 2002
- Government of Brussels-Capital Region
- Priority 7 (out of 12) = social action: education, public services, health
- Brussels Healthy City-Region
- Transversal, inter-ministerial approach
- Being renewed in 2011

# Federal Nutrition & Health Plan



- National Plan 2006-2010
- Aim: to improve the nutrition habits of Belgian inhabitants and make more people move more
- Based on a food consumption survey and the food scientific recommendations
- 7 concrete objectives: to increase the fruit & vegetable consumption; to reduce the intake of salt...
- 8 axes in which all stakeholders are involved: communication; healthy environment;...



# Federal Plan for Sustainable Development

- 2009 to 2012
- Governmental plan linked to initiatives on health
- Link to economical aspects

Nationaal actieplan tegen partnergeweld (2004-2007)  
Federaal (nationaal) Actieplan voor de Rechten van het Kind  
Federaal Actieplan voor de Reductie van Arbeidsongevallen (PHARAON/FARAO)  
Nationaal Actieplan Milieu en Gezondheid (2004-2010)  
Federaal plan ter bestrijding van het tabaksgebruik  
Nationaal plan voeding gezondheid (2005-2010)  
Hittegolf en ozonpieken (2005)  
Drugsplan 2006

Volksgezondheid is een belangrijk thema in het kader van duurzame ontwikkeling. Het milieu speelt een niet te verwaarlozen rol in onze gezondheid, die op haar beurt tal van wederzijdse relaties heeft met ons welzijn, maar ook met heel wat sociaaleconomische aspecten. Een actieve en gezonde bevolking heeft een invloed op de rendabiliteit van de ondernemingen, de fiscale inkomsten, maar ook op de kostprijs van de gezondheidszorg.



Healthy Regions - Final Conference  
Brussels - 23 September 2010

CRIOC

Centre de Recherche et d'Information  
des Organisations de Consommateurs

ULB

UNIVERSITÉ LIBRE DE BRUXELLES, UNIVERSITÉ D'EUROPE

# Healthy Regions - Challenges

- A need in Brussels Region for:
    - more dialogue
    - more synergies
- on and between all levels

# The Brabant quarter on the move



- A health snapshot (2008)
- A contact point for problems with sound...
- Walks of inhabitants and politicians
- Charters on mobility, public cleanliness
- Conferences with inhabitants



# Regional Health Observatory of Hainaut

- Triennial plan 2010 -2012 - principles
  - To start from the needs of the population
  - Tackling the inequalities in health
  - Local actions close to the inhabitants
  - Working together with other initiatives on federal and regional level
  - An intersectoral approach in a context for regional development

# Healthy Regions - Conclusions

- Mix of bottom-up & top-down approach
- Evidence-based:
  - Health snapshot (quantitative and qualitative)
  - Impact studies of policies
  - Assessment of initiatives
- Dialogue between all stakeholders
- Networking
- A ‘health in all policies’ or an ‘intersectoral’ approach

# Healthy Regions - Conclusions

- Active participation of inhabitants and local actions
- Implementation of actions and plans across departments
- Interactions between political, expert and human reasoning
- Financial resources
- Tackling the inequalities in health
- Sustainable development

Thank you for your kind  
attention.....

[www. healthyregions.eu](http://www.healthyregions.eu)