

THE LIÈGE « EARTH-FOOD » BELT



CATL - THE LIÈGE EARTH-FOOD BELT

- Develop an ecosystem, drive synergies, to effect the food transition in the Liège area
- Which tool? : creation of cooperatives with a social agenda
- Started in 2013 subsidised from 2016 by the Wallonia region team of 5 employees (3.5 full time)



20+ COOPERATIVES EXIST UNDER THE CATL BANNER



OuftiCoop Distribution, Investir



De la terre à l'assiette Investir, Production



L'épicerie des champs Distribution, Investir



Unis Verts Paysans Distribution, Investir



Rayon 9





Vin du Pays de Herve Production



Invent'Terre



Terre d'Herbage Distribution



Vervicoop Distribution



HesbiCoop Distribution



Les Petits Producteurs
Distribution



Histoire d'un grain Production



Point Ferme Distribution



Novacitis Service



Cycle en Terre



Distribution



Vin de Liège Production



Service



Production



Distribution



Production



THE SMALL PRODUCERS COOP

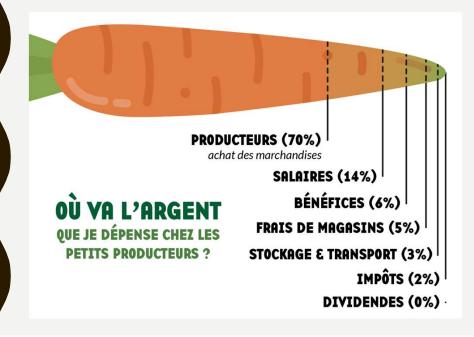




- Created in 2017 4 stores selling local and / or organic products
- >300 cooperative members including all employees and several local producers
- 2020 TO >EUR3.5m; created 21 permanent jobs; supporting local producers









- I need = I product (max 250 references)
- Organic and / or local <u>sustainable</u> agriculture
- Direct supply from producers (max I intermediary where unavoidable)
- Non-negotiated purchase price. Reduced margins for an affordable price for all
- Basic layout, no frills, for the benefit of the customer (in terms of costs)



Great products at the right price -> maximized revenue to the local producer



CRE@FARM: URBAN CROP FARMING

- Demonstrate sustainability & replicability of new urban vegetable crop farming projects
- Rent-free lease of available plots by the City of Liège
- LPP's support as an incubator:
 - Interest-free long term loan to finance equipment
 - Production planning and guaranteed commercialization of produce
 - Part-time salaried jobs in LPP shop network (for "off season" time)



Season I (2020) a success

Season 2: hiring 3rd team member and increasing plot size by 33%



KEY TAKEAWAYS



- LPPs ultimate objective (within 18-36mths)
 - Demonstrate financial robustness / operational long term sustainability
 - "show and tell": support open-source dissemination in other regions
- Social justice?
 - Inclusive governance; invest in the team; support their growth
- Strengthen regional food networks?
 - Coherence; transparency; share information and align interests
- Digitalisation?
 - Essential for visibility; but what lessons from Covid?