

**gent:**

# GENT EN GARDE



**Ghent en Garde makes the local  
food system a sustainable one**

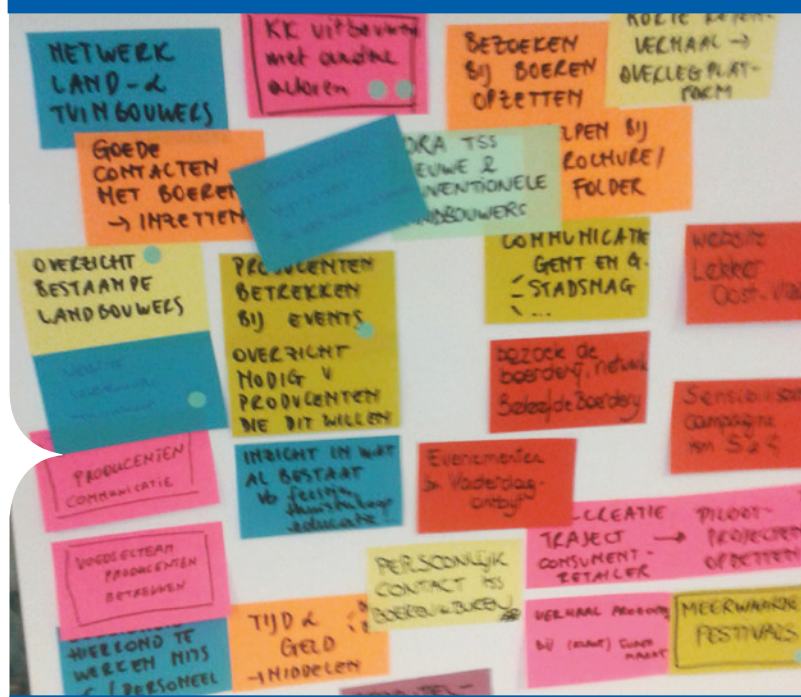
**Transformative Action Award  
Application**

# MULTI-STAKEHOLDER GOVERNANCE

Our food council brings together **25 stakeholders** representing the food system. Those bring together big organizations representing different agricultural and food industry sectors, as well as innovative, small-scale actors and civil society.

Through our working groups we reach out to about **50 organizations**.

Our internal working group connects colleagues from **25 different teams** within the city.



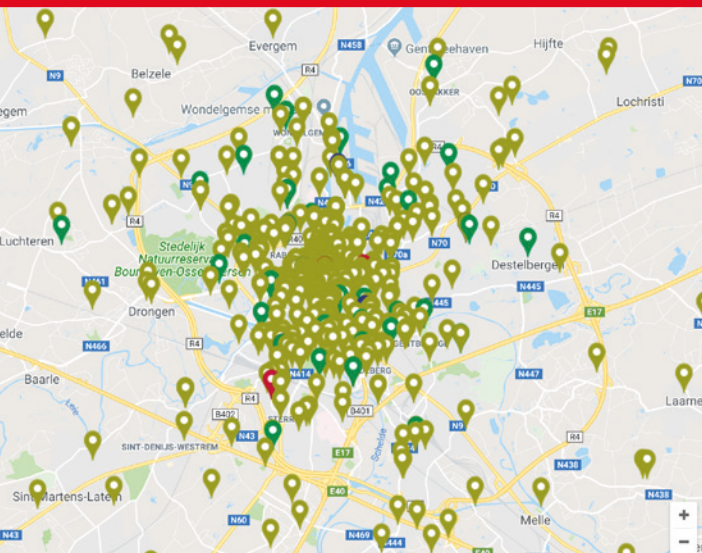


[www.gentengarde.be](http://www.gentengarde.be)



Ghent en Garde has strong communication tools. Its online platform has already reached **20,439 individuals**.

[www.gentengarde.be/kaart](http://www.gentengarde.be/kaart)



The map on the platform lists over a **1000 local initiatives**. A filter function allows users to easily find what they are looking for.

[www.facebook.com/groups/gentengarde](https://www.facebook.com/groups/gentengarde)



The facebook group has **1828 members** that actively interact through the group.



# MORE LOCAL FOOD

**10 ha** of agricultural land have been piloted for local and sustainable food production, providing access to land for new, young farmers.

Ghent has **invested 45,000 euro in 5 new startups** on short food supply chains. Networking on short food supply chains annually brings together over **50 farmers, retailers, caterers, researchers and policy makers.**

Since 2014 over **42 school gardens** have received coaching and **13 workshops** have been organized for parents, teachers and directors. This amounts up to **240 participants.** In the same period **25 community gardens** equally received coaching. **11 community garden cafes** took place and united **250 participants.**





# SUSTAINABLE DIETS



Thursday Veggie Day has had significant impact. We **measure** this through extensive market research **every 2 years**. **7%** of the **citizens** are **vegetarian**. **43%** of the **people** who **once participated**, have **decreased** their **meat consumption**. **40%** has extended the meatless approach to **other days of the week**. **28%** of them **became vegetarian**. In **2017** the **4500 students** of city schools had significant impact through their vegetarian meals on Thursdays: they **saved 2120 animal lives**, or **3 cows**, **24 pigs**, **739 chickens** and **1352 fish**. We organized **110 workshops** on **Thursday Veggie Day** in schools between 2012 and 2016. Additionally, **81 workshops** have been organized **for vulnerable groups of society**, reaching **918 participants**.



Through our sustainable school meals we reach **4500 students** and serve **775,883 meals** annually. Our educational campaign on sustainable food targeted many schools, children and parents. **43 schools** were **decorated** with a campaign on **sustainable food**. Educational materials were distributed to **5667 children** and **2572 teachers**.



**14 schools** received additional **subsidies** for educational campaigns that they organized themselves on sustainable food and vegetable gardens. And **57 schools** played an **urban environmental game**, covering the challenges of sustainable food and having young people reflect on it.



# BETTER ACCESS TO FOOD



Through social employment we train and coach vulnerable people to access the labor market: we employed **4 people** this way at our catering company, **19 people** at **Foodsavers** and have integrated this approach in our agricultural pilot project.



Foodsavers has had significant impact. After ten months of operation, the results achieved by the Foodsavers platform have surpassed all expectations. The first achievements are the following:

- **300.34 tons** of food redistributed composed of **64,395 items**.
- **24 retailers**, one wholesale market, **2 distribution centers** of retailers, **1 organic farm** and **1 company** provided food products.
- **58 local poverty organizations** and **social restaurants** based in Ghent distributed food to people in need.
- **18,971 people in need** received products or food baskets.
- **68% of fresh fruit and vegetables** on total amount of products redistributed.
- **Reduction of 762 tons of CO2**.
- **Employment of 19 people** coming from long-term unemployment.





# LESS FOOD WASTE

Resto  
Restje

Our Restorestje has been highly distributed amongst restaurants. **118 restaurants** participate and distribute the boxes. **23,400 boxes** have been distributed so far.

