

# Sustainable Public Food Procurement

Think Global Act Local





#### Sustainable Public Food Procurement Case study City of Ghent, Belgium

Sharing the experience
Eating City
7th September 2024

#### What's cookin'

- 1. Framework Ghent, Belgium
  - a) Mission & strategies
  - b) Multi-stakeholdersmodel
  - c) What's on the school menu
- 2. Drop your GHG
  - a) Protein shift
  - b) Results Cool Food Pledge
- 3. Experiment & learn
  - a) Key ingredients
  - b) Learning curve



#### **Sustainability**

The SDG's as a sound basis for a resilient and healthy city and a sustainable planet

## SUSTAINABLE GALS DEVELOPMENT GALS







































LIVE, work & enjoy

Breath, grow & CREATE

ghent:

**IMPROVE** for the next generation

#### Mission

Ghent is a proud city where people like to live, work and enjoy themselves.

A city that breathes and gives breathing space. Everyone is **equally** different and equally Genthian.

Children can grow and **prosper** here, and people get the chance to develop their talents.

In Ghent we are entrepreneurs and experimenters. With a focus on the world. We create the city together. And make the **transition** for the next generations to an even better Ghent.

#### **Professional procurement**

- Centre of experts
- Training
- Optimalisation
- Dialogue
- Reporting



## Food strategy (since 2013)

A short and sustainable supply chain



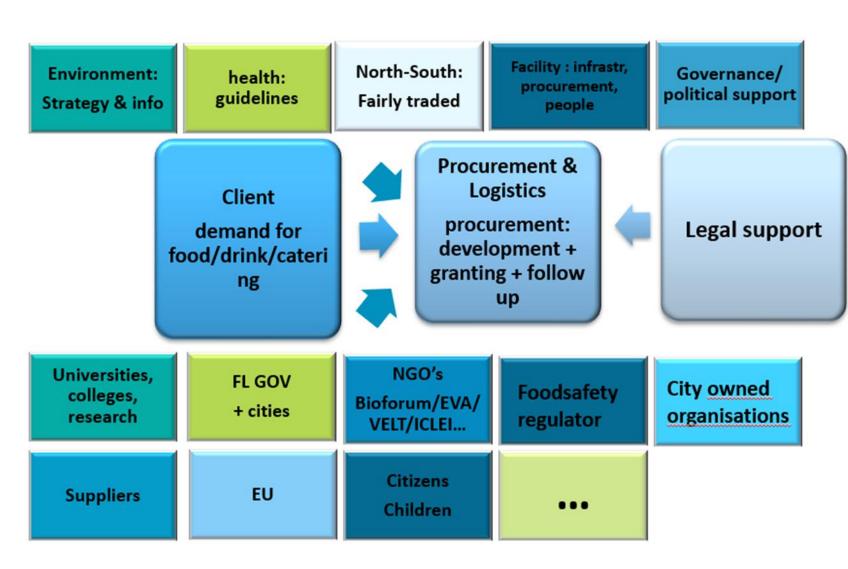
Everyone eats sustainable (healthy diet & social cohesion)

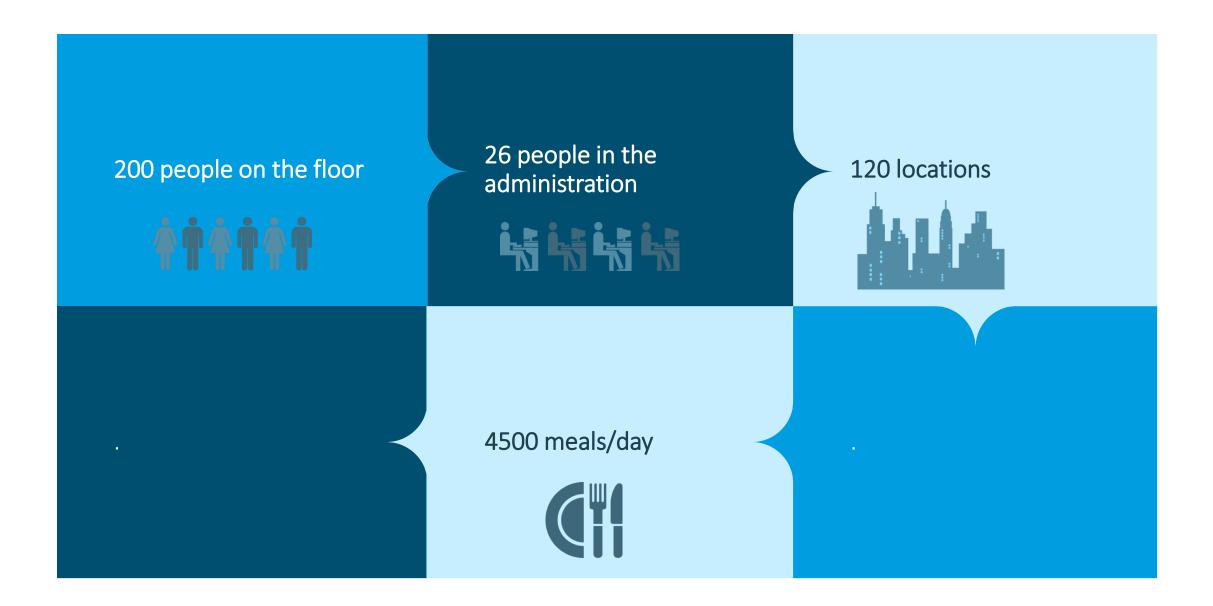
Nothing goes to waste (avoid & deal with food surplus/waste)





### Multi-stakeholdersmodel





#### Main principles



#### What's on the school menu?

People

- Social economy
- Fairly traded goods
- Implementation health guidelines
- Food safety, traceability, E-numbers
- Professional follow up

Planet

- Thursday veggie day (2009), half-half meals
- Sustainable fish, ± 23% ORG, vegs/fruit in season
- Traffic circulation plan & LEZ zone
- Recyclable packaging
- Traceability

Prosperity

- Price transparency
- Avoid extra cost -> smart menu planning
- Sustain ORG/SSC/fairly traded producers/suppliers
- Avoid waste

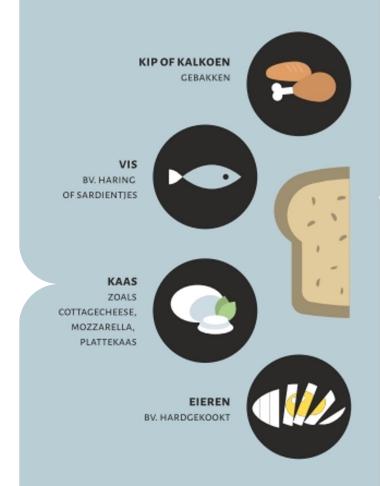


#### **Drop Your GHG**

**Proteinshift – halfhalf (since 2021)** 

On daily and/or weekly basis

50% animal based and 50% plant based

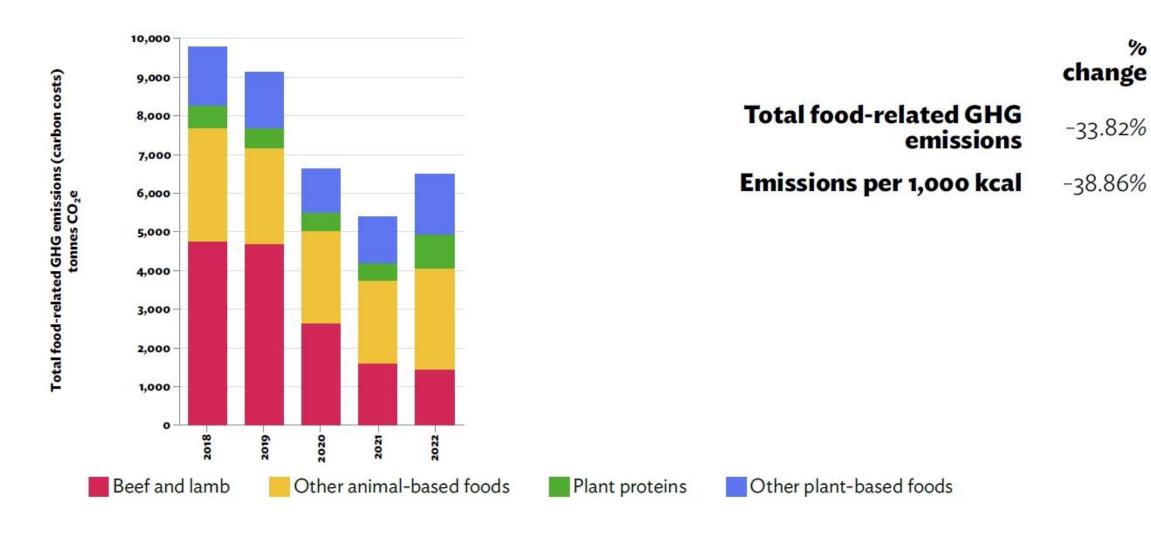






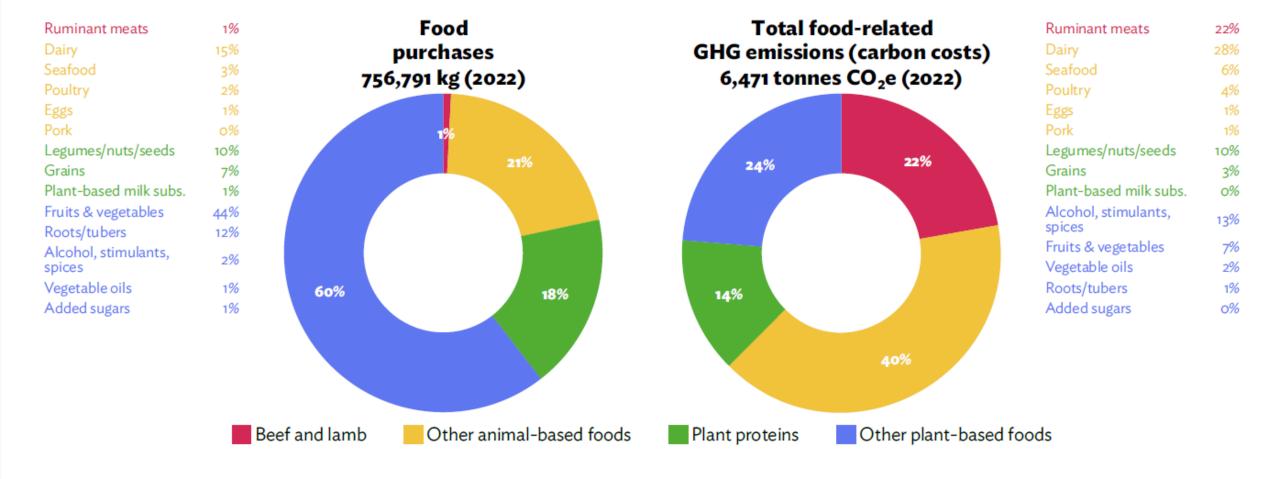
#### HALF PLANTAARDIG

## City of Ghent: total food-related emissions (2018-2022)



Sources: Purchase data provided by member. Emission factors from Poore and Nemecek (2018) (agricultural supply chain) and Searchinger et al. (2018) (carbon opportunity costs).

## City of Ghent: total food-related GHG emissions (2022)



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## Key ingredients for good catering



#### Built up knowledge

- Continuous built up of knowledge and experience
- Continuous checking of ideas with policy, colleague-client, experts and the market
- Knowledge creates progress & thinking out of the box



#### Inform others

- Inform pupils/parents/ clients why certain decisions are made
- Involve parents by letting them taste the meals



Continuous follow up

- Taste and keep tasting the served meals. Also during awarding proces organise a taste test.
- (in)formal surveys of the children and colleague-client
- Regular meetings with the caterer



#### **Evaluate often and learn**

- Is everything suitable for the young gourmands
- Respect habituation period e.g. evaluation half-half meals after 10 months of start contract



Dare to change

If it turns out that something is not working for the customer/caterer dare to make adjustments during the duration within the terms of the specifications

#### **Experiment & learn**

**SSC-products for staff restaurant learning curve** 



2020

New contract €30.000 excl VAT

Dairy

Scope SME's & Vanier

Vanier wins tender

2022

New contract

€139.000 excl VAT Scope B2B

platforms



# A recipe has no soul. You, as the cook, must bring soul to the recipe.

#### Thomas Keller

Michelin star cook, cookbook author, consultant for Pixars' Ratatouille.



## Creativity lurks in the limitation

Tamara Bruning

Civil Servant, City of Ghent, Belgium



## Thank you

#### **Tamara Bruning**

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