Social learning in local food networks: the role of collaborative networks in the up-scaling of direct consumer-producer partnerships

Tom Dedeurwaerdere^{(1)*}, Bend Annaert⁽²⁾, Tessa Avermaete⁽³⁾, Thomas Bleeckx⁽⁴⁾, Charlotte de Callatay⁽⁵⁾, Pepijn De Snijder⁽⁶⁾, Paula Fernandez-Wulff⁽⁷⁾, Hélène Joachaim⁽⁸⁾, Jose-Luis Vivero⁽⁸⁾

(1, 4, 5, 7, 8) Université catholique de Louvain

(2, 3, 6) Katholieke Universiteit Leuven,

(7) Université Libre de Bruxelles

(*) corresponding author : tom.dedeurwaerdere@uclouvain.be

Status: First draft, based on collection of 2/3 of the case analysis data (79 out of 120), preliminary analysis

Abstract

Direct consumer-producer partnerships such as community supported agriculture, contract-based regional agriculture or solidarity agriculture, have emerged throughout the world as an important and fast growing social innovation for promoting more sustainable agri-food systems. As highlighted in a 2012 review of direct consumer-producer partnerships in Europe, these partnerships thrive especially well when they are advocated as an economic alternative for structuring consumer-producer relationships in a more sustainable way, well-networked with other initiatives and connected to local and regional politics. This papers aims to test the importance of these features through a large comparative case analysis amongst 79 food buying groups in 5 city regions in Belgium. Although the result of this analysis confirms the importance of these three features, this study shows that the formation of common policy beliefs is another important element that characterizes the alternative food networks. The analysis of the belief networks around direct producer-consumer networks show that the farmer occupies a key role in the influence on / shaping of the policy beliefs in these networks. A better integration and networking with the producers is therefore a key priority for policy makers and social actors that aim to support the up-scaling of the direct consumer-producer partnerships in regional agri-food systems.

Key-words: community supported agriculture, advocacy coalitions, sustainability transition

Table

1	Intr	oduction	3
2	The	emergence of direct consumer-producer partnerships	4
	2.1	International	4
	2.2	Belgium	5
3	Adv	ocay coalition theory as a contribution to transition theory	6
4	Ma	terials and Methods	7
5	Res	ults from the Comparative Case Analysis	8
	5.1	Summary of the results on the overall features of the food buying groups	8
	5.2	Detailed results on the overall features of the food buying groups	9
	5.3 partne	Summary of the features of the beliefs networks around the consumer-producer erships	12
	5.4	Detailed results of the regression analysis of the beliefs networks	13
6	Disc	cussion / Conclusion	14
Α	nnex 1	Definition of the variables	16
Α	nnex 2	Semi-structured questionnaire	18

1 Introduction

Together, the provision of agricultural inputs, and the production, packaging, processing, transport, and distribution of food, represent 19-29 % of greenhouse gas emissions worldwide (Vermeulen et al., 2012); and they exert an important pressure on natural resources, water, nitrogen and phosphate, and arable land in particular. Reforming food systems towards greater sustainability is therefore essential for a transition towards a low-carbon and resource-efficient society. Increasingly broad segments of society demand such a switch, and appear to search for alternatives. The consensus on productivism in the governance of food systems, which emerged after the Second World War, has lost much of its appeal and is partly replaced by a variety of new approaches and value orientations. Economic efficiency and technological rationalisation remain important, but they are accompanied by concerns about nutritional quality, food safety, environmental impacts, resource efficiency and equity issues as equally important "organizing principles" around which product innovation and new consumption practices evolve (Spaargaren et al., 2012).

Conventional market incentives and direct regulation increasingly take into account these new concerns, but have failed to create an in depth transition towards more sustainable food systems. To overcome this deadlock, policy makers and entrepreneurs in various countries have increasingly developed new types of governance arrangements, which are based on the combination of the conventional policy tools with the organisation of collective processes involving the broadest possible set of actors in the implementation of the policy tools. Indeed, alongside the classic public policy tools, support for hybrid governance arrangements, involving governmental, private for-profit and private not-for profit actors have come to play a key role in the provision of collective goods. Prominent initiatives along these lines are support for emerging hybrid local food systems, Local Action Groups under the Leader Program of the EU Common Agricultural Policy, or innovative product labelling schemes with retailors (Mathijs et al., 2006). There is also an increasing interest in citizens reclaiming control over the food systems, by the establishment of food policy councils or other similar initiatives (De Schutter 2014).

All too often however, policy reforms fail because they seek to influence behaviour exclusively by incentives that operate "from without" rather than "from within": fiscal and regulatory tools are deployed to create the right set of incentives, but the values actors care about, the social norms they adhere to, or the peer pressure they are subjected to, are ignored. In this paper, we seek to understand how learning on these values and social norms in the context of collaborative networks can play a key role in improving the support given to the emerging hybrid governance arrangements.

To this purpose, the article will focus on one specific social innovation within the local food systems, which is the building of direct consumer-producer partnerships in Belgium and analyse the collaborative networks that are built around this social innovation. The paper is structured as follows. The first section provides some background to the emergence of direct consumer-producer partnerships. The second section introduces the advocacy coalition network as a framework to understand the importance of the shaping / influencing of social values and beliefs in the collaborative

networks around the partnerships. The third section presents the comparative case analysis on the Food Buying Groups in Belgium. The fourth and fifth section present and discuss the results.

2 The emergence of direct consumer-producer partnerships

2.1 International

Early initiatives of Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) developed in Japan, Germany and Switzerland in the 1960s (Schlicht et al., 2012). In Japan, in particular, women took the lead and founded Teikeis, which are family-farmer partnerships (David-Leroy & Girou 2009; Schwartz). The main motivation for these initiatives were environmental concerns, concerns about food quality and an interest in setting up a non-conventional distribution system based on direct links between producers and consumers.

In their overview of direct producer-consumer partnership schemes, Schlicht et al. provide some overview of the recent trends in some EU countries. In their study, they use the following listing of producer-consumer partnership collected by the international network Urgenci (http://urgenci.net/) (Schlicht et al., p. 23), which gives a good idea of the organisational diversity of the partnerships:

- ACP (Agriculture Contractuelle de Proximité contract-based agriculture of proximity) in French-speaking Switzerland
- AMAP (Association pour le Maintien d'une Agriculture Paysanne Association to maintain small-scale farming) in France
- Andelslandbruk (andel = part, andelslandbruk = CSA in Norwegian) in Norway
- ASC (Agriculture Soutenue par une Communauté Agriculture supported by a community) in Quebec, Canada
- BAH (Bajo el Asfalto esta la Huerta under the asphalt, there is the vegetable garden) in Spain
- CSA (Community-Supported-Agriculture) in the Anglo-Saxon countries (US, UK) and in Flanders
- GAA (Groupement d'Achats Alimentaires (Food shopping group) in Wallonia
- GAC (Groupe d'Achats Communs (Common purchasing group) in Wallonia
- GAS (Gruppo d'Acquisto Solidale Solidarity-based purchasing groups) in Italy
- GASAP (Groupes d'Achat Solidaires de l'Agriculture Paysanne Solidarity-based purchasing groups for small-scale farming) in Brussels
- Gela (Gemeinsam Landwirtschaften Farming together) in Austria
- Reciproco (Relações de Cidadania entre Produtores e Consumidores Solidary relations between producers and consumers) in Portugal
- Regionale Vertragslandwirtschaft (Contract-based regional agriculture) in German- speaking Switzerland
- Solidarische Landwirtschaft (Agriculture in solidarity) in Germany
- Teikeis (Partnerships) in Japan
- The Voedselteams (Foodteams) in Flanders
- Tieša Pirkšana (Direct sale or green baskets) in Letvia

The study by Schlicht et al. gathered more specific data for Germany, France and Switzerland, which are summarized in table 1. In spite of the broad diversity of organisational forms, the authors find the following communalities that allow to understand the different prevalence of CSA in the respective regions (p. 76):

- Interest in fresh regional food and food quality (food culture in the various countries)
- Publicity and communication of the initiatives (advocating CSA rather undogmatically as a political project and economic alternative instead of simply promoting fresh regional food; dealing in certified organic food only, etc)
- Spread of organic shops and box schemes
- Networking
- Connectedness with local, regional or national politics
- Political culture

Table 1. Producer-consumer partnership in some selected countries

	number	Kind of policy support
AMAP (started in 2001), France	Between 1,200 and 1,500 AMAPS; involves around 50,000 families and 200,000 consumers (estimated number of farms: 1250, if 40 families/CSA)	Subsidies for regional AMAP networks (through agricultural policies and social economy policies)
Solidarische Landwirtschaft, Germany	19 CSA farms	Not yet well known, one project received the price for ecological cultivation for its diversified concept based on solidarity
Contract-based regional agriculture, Switzerland (German speaking)	36 projects (each involving between 1 to 14 farms)	Supported by the city of Geneva, promoted within the territorial and agricultural policy and the administration of organic and regional agriculture (financial, rooms for project distribution, promotion)
North America	1700 farms (McFadden, 2004)	(further review needed)

According to the study by Schlicht et al., Belgium, Germany and Switzerland are still developing their structures and umbrella organisations. The initiatives in these countries seem to rely on more idealistic consum-actors (p. 76). In France the CSA are much further developed. In the initiatives in France, there seems to be also a large number of less idealistic people joining the initiatives which are implemented as an economic alternative for structuring the consumer-producer relationships with a broader appeal.

The possibility to move from the networks of consum-actors to the building of a well-developed economic alternative for consumer-producer relationships will be further investigated through the comparative case analysis of food buying groups in Belgium.

2.2 Belgium

Flanders-Region

CSA farms: contractual partnership between one single farmer and a group of consumers based on an agreement of solidarity; currently 28 CSA farms in Flanders (http://www.csa-netwerk.be/csa-be)

Voedselteams: clients can order vegetables online, which will be delivered to depositories by the farmers; around 60 Voedselteams in Flanders (a small percentage of the sales receipts is paid for running the organization)

Walloon-Region

Groupes d'Achats Communs (GAC): a group of consumers that enters into a partnership with farmers by assuring them to buy their product regularly. The participants are actively involved in these projects, in the organization of orders and their distribution, in taking care of the accountancy, etc. At present there are 83 GACs in the Wallon-Region (www.asblrcr.be; covering over 3320 active families)

Ruche qui dit oui (webplatform: https://laruchequiditoui.fr/fr) : clients can order vegetables online which will be delivered by the farmers, who are present 1/week at a selling place (hosted by an individual who receives a small percentage). At present 32 Ruches.

Brussels-Region

GASAP: Solidarity-based purchasing groups for small-scale farming. The first GASAPs were founded in 2006 through the initiative of the non-profit organiation "Le Début des Haricots" (DDH). Today, there are around 40 GASAPs in Brussels-Region which are supplied by ten farmers. Since November 2009, a coordinator has supported the work of the network through a funding by the IBGE (Institute for the management of the environment of the Brussels-Region)

Groupes d'Achats Communs (GAC): 2 Ixelles, 1 Laeken, 1 Schaerbeek, 1 Woluwe

Ruche qui dit oui: 8 Ruches

3 Advocay coalition theory as a contribution to transition theory

A prominent approach to social learning in actor networks has been developed by Sabatier in the context of the formation of beliefs by groups aiming at influencing policy. However, the advocacy coalition framework has also been widely applied outside the analysis of policy advocacy. In particular, the framework has over 100 applications in natural resource and environmental governance studies (Weible et al., 2009), and in some rare case has been applied to food policies (Nedergaard, 2008).

Advocacy coalitions gather people from a variety of organizations at different levels who share a particular belief system, which is defined as a set of basic values, causal assumptions and problem perceptions. Through this shared belief systems, these actors seek to influence the evolution of certain policy sub-systems with a non-trivial degree of coordinated activity over time (Sabatier and Jenkins-Smith, 1993, p. 25; Matti and Sandström, 2013). The strength of each coalition depends on the policy beliefs, but also on the human resources (members inside the coalition and contacts outside the coalition), the financial resources, public opinion, formal legal authority to take decisions, information sources and skilful leadership. However, the approach differs from the classical one whereby actors are aggregated by type of institution. Indeed, common beliefs, rather than common interests, constitute the fundamental glue holding coalitions together (Sabatier and Jenkins-Smith, 1993. p. 223). This latter hypothesis is at the core of the analysis in this paper of the various networks of direct consumer-producer relationships in Belgium.

The Advocacy Coalition Framework (ACF) helps explain coalition structure and behaviour, the role of scientific and technical information in decision making, social learning and the impact of belief formation on change in policy subsystems. ACF predicts that stakeholder beliefs and behaviour are embedded within informal networks and that policy making is structured by the networks among important policy participants. In order to succeed, advocacy coalitions must seek allies, share resources and develop complementary strategies (Sabatier and Weiber, 2007).

In ACF **the policy core beliefs** are the foundation for forming coalitions, establishing alliances, and coordinating activities among subsystem members. They are distinct from the deep core belief which are individual beliefs on the relative priority of core values. The latter are largely a part of childhood socialization and are quite difficult to change in short time span.

The Policy Core Beliefs are fundamental policy positions concerning the basic strategies for achieving core values within the subsystem (Sabatier and Jenkins-Smith, 1999, p. 133). They are applications of various deep core beliefs to specific policy subsystems and they tend to be subsystem-wide in scope. Policy core beliefs are normative beliefs that project an image of how the policy subsystem ought to be, provide the vision that guides coalition strategic behaviour and help unite allies and divide opponents.

Policy core beliefs are resistant to change, but are more malleable than deep core beliefs. Examples of policy core beliefs are priority of policy values, whose welfare counts, primacy of government or markets or different roles of citizens, experts and civil servants in global food governance. Policy core beliefs also include more empirical and technical beliefs beliefs as for instance preferences for different policy instruments (coercitive, invectives, sanctions, prohibitions, information, voluntary guidelines) (Sabatier and Weible, 2007, p. 195).

For the ACF theory, the key features of the contribution of advocacy coalitions to successful social movements lies in the organizational architecture. A successful advocacy coalition requires

- the aggregation of resources
- member's motivations
- articulation with third parties such as local and regional authorities to be successful in its endeavour

In this paper we propose to use this framework to understand the role of belief-based coalitions in the building of local economic alternatives based on direct producer-consumer relationships. To this purpose, we analyse a comparative case analysis of Food Buying Groups in Belgium.

4 Materials and Methods

Between December 2014 and April 2015, field interviews amongst 79 food buying groups were conducted in 5 city regions: Leuven, Antwerp, Brussels (Ixelles and Saint-Gilles), Ottignies and Liège. During the fields visit, a semi-structured questionnaire was used, containing 3 open questions and 28 closed questions with pre-defined options (cf. questionnaire in the Annex). Amongst the 79 interviews, 31 refer to initiatives that indicated "support to sustainable farming practices/local economy" as their highest priority, 43 to initiatives that indicated "support to sustainable farming practices/local economy" as their highest priority and 5 indicated "creating a participatory dynamic around food" as their highest priority.

To analyse the results of the comparative case analysis two closely related probit models were developed:

(P1) FBG: SUPPORTFARMLOCALECON: A first model to analyse the belief-based coalitions of the Food Buying Groups which indicate the "support to sustainable farming practices/local economy" as their highest priority (response to question 28: amongst three goals the goal "Support the farmers that supply the FBG (local economy, small-scale farming, sustainable farming practices)" is ranked highest)

(P2) FBG: HEALTHYLOWINPUTFOOD: A second model to analyse the belief-based coalitions of the Food Buying Groups which indicate the "tasty, healthy, sustainable and affordable food" as highest priority (response to question 28: amongst three goals, the goal "Provide tasty, healthy, sustainable and affordable food to the members of the FBG (good taste, no pesticides, affordable prices, neglected vegetables)" is ranked highest)

Both models tested for the following features:

- Cooperation amongst the actors: use of common ressources, sharing of information.
- Networks of influence/collaboration: sharing of beliefs with other organisations, influence on beliefs by other organisations
- Policy Core Beliefs: convergence on policy core beliefs related to support to the Food Buying Groups, convergence on policy core beliefs related to support to Sustainable Food Production and Consumption
- Governance features of the Food Buying Groups : centralized versus decentralized decision making, governance support from public authorities, appointment mechanism of the coordinating person

Control variables pertaining to the location of the initiative in one of the 5 city regions and the role of the interviewee as a core manager in the Food Buying Group were included.

To construct the two probit models, only variables were considered that were at least individually significant at a 0.05% level. The statistical software package stata 13.1 was used to perform the analysis. To determine the goodness of fit of the model we used the following indices (to be developed: F>0000 for all regressions).

5 Results from the Comparative Case Analysis

5.1 Summary of the results on the overall features of the food buying groups

The comparative case analysis of the Food Buying Groups in the 5 city regions shows the following features:

(1) Pertaining to the **deep core beliefs** of the Food Buying Groups:

On average "local" food is more important than "sustainable farming" and "organic" as a motivation of the interviewees (which are all core manager of the Food Buying Group") to participate in the organization

However the meaning of "local" is ambiguous and reflects two distinct organizational missions: "support to sustainable farming practices/local economy" and "tasty, healthy, sustainable and affordable food"

(2) Pertaining to the networks of influence/collaboration on policy core beliefs

Nearly unanimously, the producer is identified as the actor that exerts the highest influence on the shaping of the beliefs in the Food Buying Group

Collaboration with producers is higher in the sub-groups oriented towards "support to sustainable farming practices/local economy", as expected. However, participation to activities of other local market actors, such as local groceries, public markets or cooperatives is also very prominent.

5.2 Detailed results on the overall features of the food buying groups

(a) Deep core beliefs: "local" more important than "sustainable farming"

Table 2. Response to OPEN Question 8 : Please, explain briefly your main reasons that motivate you to participate in the FBG

- freely provided by the interviewees</u>
- < respondents provided on average between 1 and 5 motivations

Support local farmer	# times that motivation is freely
	listed
locally grown products / products directly from the producer	40
fair price for the producer / support local farmers	20
direct consumer-producer relationships	8
Sustainable farming	
sustainability/ecology	13
organic/low-input products	20
Social relationships	
social diversity	1
social relationship/ builds social bonds / community relationships	19
Create an association/ FBG close to where I live	8
contact with the producer	5
Food quality	
taste of the vegetables / fresh / information on the products	14
healthy food	12
seasonal products	9

(b) disentangling the meaning of "local"

Question 28: please rank the following three goals according to the priority to your organisation (the highest priority (1) to the least (3))

- (a) Support the farmers that supply the FBG (local economy, small scale farming, sustainable farming practices)
- (b) provide tasty healthy sustainable and affordable food to the members of the FBG (good taste, no pesticides, affordable prices, neglected vegetables)
- (c) creating a participatory dynamic around food amongst the FBG members (discovering new suppliers, new products, discuss with others on sustainable food production and consumption, sharing recipes, social bonds, etc.)

Table 3

	Ranked as highest priority	Ranked as second priority	Ranked as least important
			priority
Q28a	31 (FBG: SUPPORTFARMLOCALECON)	40	8
Q28b	43 (FBG: HEALTHYLOWINPUTFOOD)	23	13
Q28c	5 (FBG: SUSTFOODDIALOG)	16	58

FBG: SUPPORTFARMLOCALECON

=1 option (a) ranked as the highest priority (31 initiatives)

=0 option (a) ranked second or third (40+8 initiatives)

FBG: HEALTHYLOWINPUTFOOD

=1 option (b) ranked as the highest priority (43 initiatives)

=0 option (b) ranked second or third (23+13 initiatives)

Two follow-up questions allow to further qualify the sub-groups. Concerning support to farmers, supporting sustainable farming practices and the local circuits rank highest amongst the options indicated by the respondents of sub-sample SUPPORTFARMLOCALECON. Concerning the service offered to the consumers healthy and tasty food directly from the producers and food from low input agriculture, rank highest amongst the options indicated by the respondents of sub-sample HEALTHYLOWINPUTFOOD.

(c) The central role of the producer in the shaping of policy core beliefs

Table 4. Question Q34. According to you, who are <u>most influential organisations for shaping beliefs</u>* on your Food Buying Group?

*beliefs on transition to sustainable agri-food systems (do not consider shaping in opposition to these beliefs)

	No influence	Influence	Don't know or n/a	Total
	(%)	(%)	(%)	respondents
the first closest FBG to yours (Mention the name in				
the box below)	39	42	19	72
the second closest FBG to yours (Mention the name in				
the box below)	35	28	38	72
your main supplier	4	96	0	75
Local groceries, cooperatives and local market	50	46	4	74
supermarkets	89	11	0	72
local authorities	78	22	0	74
national or regional governments	83	17	0	72
EU level governments	83	17	0	72
social organisations: mutual insurance organisation,				
medical centre, municipal social services	72	15	13	72

(d) The central role of the supplier in the collaborative networks

Table 5A. Question 19. Do members of your FBG participate in activities* related to the food system organized by :

*meetings, cultural / educational activities, community gardens, local fairs, cookery lessons, etc.

Answer Options	Sometimes
another FBG 1	25
another FBG 2	2
another FBG 3	1
another FBG 4	1
a producer	48
a local grocery, market or cooperative	30
persons from local authorities	22
Social organisations: mutual insurance organisation, medical centre, municipal social services	10

Table 5B. Respondents to question 19 listed in table 5A, but separated according to three sub-groups (who rank the options of question 28 as first priority)

	Q28a_1(%) (31)	q28b_1 (%) (43)	Q28c_1(%) (5)	Nbre of respondents
(a) Another FBG1	39	30	40	79
(e) A producer	79	58	100	70
(f) A local grocery, market or cooperative	54	35	100	67
(g) Local authorities	39	33	0	65
(h) Social organisations	26	10	0	63

(e) Control for the importance of the city regions

Remark: additional interviews are ongoing to correct a certain "bias" in the sample, at present the CSA interviews in Flanders-Region are not yet included, nor the interviews with "La ruche qui dit oui" in the Brussels and Walloon-Region. But this will be corrected in the second analysis.

Table 6

	Liège	Antwerpen	Ottignies-	Leuven	Bruxelles	Limburg	Wallonie
			LLN				autre
FBG: SUPPORTFARMLOCALECON	7	5	6	4	6	2	1
=1							
FBG: SUPPORTFARMLOCALECON	7	7	6	12	5	0	11
=0							
TOTAL	14	12	12	16	11	2	12

5.3 Summary of the features of the beliefs networks around the consumer-producer partnerships

In contrast to the study by Schlicht et al. the main organizational missions in the study sample (SUPPORTFARMLOCALECON and HEALTHYLOWINPUTFOOD) are not correlated in the first place with an organisational form or the institutional realities of a certain city region. Indeed one can observe both missions (SUPPORTFARMLOCALECON and HEALTHYLOWINPUTFOOD) as highest priority in cases that belong to the networks of Voedselteams in Flanders, for example, and in the GASAP in Brussels on the other hand.

In line with the model of the advocacy coalition theory reviewed above these organizational missions are rather correlated with common policy belief systems, characterized by positions concerning the basic strategies for achieving transition within the subsystem. The main common core policy beliefs that are found in the regression model for the sub-sample SUPPORTFARMLOCALECON is the importance of governmental support and the regulation of unsustainable practices. In the sub-sample HEALTHYLOWINPUTFOOD the main core policy beliefs are the self-organisation of the members and the importance of information exchange.

The key collaborative networks for shaping beliefs that comparatively play a bigger role in the SUPPORTFARMLOCALECON sub-group are the networking with other Food Buying Groups and the networking with the transition towns movements (especially in Antwerp and Liège).

5.4 Detailed results of the regression analysis of the beliefs networks

Table 7. Regression results

		PRIOIRTY GOALS OF	
		FBG	
	Question	SUPPORTFARMLOCAL	HEALTHYLOWINPUTFO
		ECON (q28a 1)	OD (q28b 1)
CORE INDEPENDENT VARIABLES		(4 <u>-</u> /	- (4 /
Deep core beliefs			
CHANGE CONSUMPTION HABITS	Q31a_1	(-)	(+)**
LOW CARBON FOOD TRANSPORT	Q30d_12	(-)	(+)**
Policy beliefs influenced by / shared with	_		
BELIEFS SHAPED BY OTHER FBGs	q34ab_2	(+)**	(-)***
TRANSITION TOWNS	Q9-27-34	(+)**	(-)***
NO TRUST LOCAL GOVERNT	Q27i_1	(-)***	(+)***
NO TRUST EU	Q27k_1	(-)	(+)***
Policy core beliefs related to the best support to			
activities in FBG			
IMPLEMENT SUPPORT GOVERNT ADMIN SERVICE	q37a_1	(+)*	(-)***
IMPLEMENT SUPPORT UMBRELLA ORGANIST	q37b_123	(+)	(-)
IMPLEMENT SUPPORT MEMBERS OWN ORGANIST	q37e_1	(-)**	
			(+)**
Policy core beliefs related to the best way to			
support sustainable food production and			
consumption			
GOVERNT REGULATION UNSUSTAINABLE PRACT	Q32e_123	(+)*	(-)*
GOVERNT INFORMATION EXCHANGE	Q32f_123	(-)***	(+)***
Relation to the food system			
STRUGGLE AGAINST FOOD SYSTEM	q33_2	(-)**	(+)
CONTROL VARIABLES			
Organisational issues			
NO CONCERN CONSTRAINTS REASON LEAVING	Q14b_1	(+)***	(-)***
PARTICIPATORY DYNAMICS 2 nd priority	Q28c_2	(+)***	(-)***
City regions			
(to be added when all interviews completed)			

Significant at 0,1 % level (*), 0,05 % level (**), at 0,01 % level (***); all variables used in the table are individually significant at least at the 0,05 % level (**) in single regressions with the outcome variables $Dq28a_1$ and $Dq28b_1$

Qualification of the regression analysis: as can be seen from table 3, both sub-groups (SUPPORTFARMLOCALECON and HEALTHYLOWINPUTFOOD) pursue a mix of objectives. So the outcome variable of the regression analysis shows only a "trend" of a group with a slighter priority on one aspect, as compared to the other. Nevertheless, this trend indicates relevant features of well-functioning Food Buying Group that can be used if one wishes to improve one of these objectives in a given organisation or city region.

6 Discussion / Conclusion

The analysis of the belief networks show that the farmer occupies a key role in the influence on / shaping of the policy beliefs in these networks. A better integration and networking with the producers is therefore a key priority for policy makers and social actors that aims to support the up-scaling of the direct consumer-producer partnerships in regional agri-food systems.

Acknowledgements

We acknowledge co-funding of this research from the Belgian Science Policy, under the project FOOD4SUSTAINABILITY (contract BR/121/A5), and co-funding from the European Commission, under the project GENCOMMONS (ERC grant agreement 284).

References

David-Leroy, M. & S. Girou (2009): AMAP. Association pour le Maintien d'une Agriculture Paysanne. Replaçons l'Alimentation au Cœur de nos Sociétés. Paris.

De Schutter, O., 2014. Final Report: The transformative potential of the right to food. Report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to food. UN: A/HRC/25/57.

Mathijs, E., Van Hauwermeiren, A., Engelen, G., Coene, H., 2006. Instruments and institutions to develop local food systems. Final Report CP/59, Belgian Science Policy.

Matti S., Sandström A., 2013. The Defining Elements of Advocacy Coalitions: Continuing the Search for Explanations for Coordination and Coalition Structures. Review of Policy Research. Vol. 30 n. 2.

McFadden, on line, http://newfarm.rodaleinstitute.org/features/0104/csa-history/part1.shtml; Farms of Tomorrow Revisited (1998) with Trauger Groh.

Nedergaard, P., 2008. The reform of the 2003 Common Agricultural Policy: an advocacy coalition explanation. Policy Studies 29 (2): 179-195.

Sabatier, P.A. and C.M. Weible (2007). The Advocacy Coalition Framework: Innovations and Clarifications. In: Sabatier, P.A., ed. Theories of the Policy Process. Westview Press, Boulder, 2nd ed., pp. 189-220

Sabatier, P.A. and H. Jenkins-Smith (1993). Policy Change and Learning: An Advocacy Coalition Approach. Boulder, CO: Westview Press.

Schlicht S., Volz P., Weckenbrock, Ph., Le Gallic Th. 2012. Community supported agriculture: an overview of characteristics, diffusion and political interaction in France, Germany, Belgium and Switzerland (online)

Schwartz, E. (2011): A History of CSA. http://www.brooklynbridgecsa.org/articles/a-history-of-csa. (25/05/2011).

Spaargaren, G., Oosterveer, P., Loeber, A. (eds.), 2012. Food Practices in Transition. Changing Food Consumption, Retail and Production in the Age of Reflexive Modernity. New York, London: Routledge.

Vermeulen S., Campbell B.M., Ingram J.S.I., 2012. Climate Change and Food Systems. Annual Review of Environment and Resources 37(1): 195-222

Weible, C.M., P.A. Sabatier and K. McQueen (2009). Themes and Variations: Taking Stock of the Advocacy Coalition Framework. The Policy Studies Journal 37 (1): 121-140.

Annex 1. Definition of the variables

N=79		=1	=0	/	
SUSTFARMPRODU	Dq28a_1	31	48	/	Question 28 : please rank the following three goals according to the priority to your organisation (the highest priority (1) to the least (3)) (d) Support the farmers that supply the FBG (local economy, small scale farming, sustainable farming practices) (e) provide tasty healthy sustainable and affordable food to the members of the FBG (good taste, no pesticides, affordable prices, neglected vegetables) (f) creating a participatory dynamic around food amongst the FBG members (discovering new suppliers, new products, discuss,) =1 option (a) ranked as the highest priority
					=0 option (a) ranked second or third
SUSTFOODCONSU	Dq28b_1	43	36	/	=1 option (b) ranked as the highest priority =0 option (b) ranked second or third
TRANSITION TOWNS	q9-27-34	18	61	0	 =1: at least one answer on the following Indicates transition town as an organization with which they share values (q9) Strong trust for one of the pre-defined transition towns (q27) Influence on beliefs for one of the pre-defined transition towns (q34)
NO CONCERN FOR CONSTRAINTS	q14b_1	13	57	9	If people left, they left because they were looking to systems that impose less constraints on them (unknown vegetables, time consuming involvement, etc.) =1: "none of the people who left" =0: "a few" "most of them" "nearly all";
NO TRUST LOCAL GOVERNT	q27i_1	20	59	0	Trust in local government for driving transition to sustainable agri-food systems = 1 "not at all" = 0 "weak trust/trust/strong trust" or not applicable
NO TRUST EU	q27k_1	39	40	0	Trust in EU authorities for driving transition to sustainable agri-food systems = 1 "not at all" = 0 "weak trust/trust/strong trust" or not applicable
PARTICIPATORY DYNAMICS	q28c_2	16	63	0	Amongst the three option of q28 (cf first line of the table): = 1 option (c) ranked 2 nd =0 option (c) ranked 3 rd or 1 st PS never 1 st when Q28a_1=1 or q28a_2 =1
LOW CARBON FOOD TRANSPORT	q30d_12	26	53	2	Rank the following 4 goals of the GFBT for service to consumers (organic food, low input food, healthy and tasty food, food with lower transport related carbon impact) = 1 if food with lower transport related carbon impact ranked 1st or 2nd = 0 ranked 3rd or 4th
CHANGE CONSUMPTION HABITS	q31a_1	35	44	0	Rank the following 4 goals of the FBG for participatory dynamics (change consumption habits, empower FBG members, social relations, debate) = 1 if change consumption habits ranked 1 st =0 if change consumption habits ranked 2 nd , 3 rd or 4 th
GOVERNT REGULATION UNSUSTAINABLE PRACT	q32e_123	50	29	0	Most important areas for government to support sustainable food production and consumption = 1 if "impose legal constraints on non-sustainable production and distribution practices" ranked as one of the three most important of 7 options

					= 0 if not ranked amongst the three most important of 7 options
GOVERNT INFORMATION EXCHANGE	q32f_123	14	65	0	Most important areas for government to support sustainable food production and consumption = 1 if "facilitate information exchange on best practices amongst transition initiatives" ranked as one of the three most important of 7 options = 0 if not ranked amongst the three most important of 7 options
STRUGGLE AGAINST FOOD SYSTEM	q33_2	12	67	0	= 1 if you consider that the FBG "struggles against the existing food system" (12 answers) =0 if you consider that the FBG "builds a different food system" (62 answers) or improves the existing system (5 answers)
BELIEFS SHAPED BY OTHER FBGs	q34ab_2	31	48	0	= 1 if first or second closest FBG is considered as one of the most important organizations having an influence in shaping beliefs in the own FBG = 0 if indicated "no influence" or not applicable
IMPLEMENT SUPPORT GOVERNT ADMIN SERVICE	q37a_1	9	70	0	To implement support for the FBG it is most appropriate to organise a specific administrative service with councillors/researchers/advisers =1 (ranked as 1 st important) =0 ranked as 2 nd or 3 rd or not selected
IMPLEMENT SUPPORT UMBRELLA ORGANIST	q37b_123	65	14	0	To implement support for the FBG it is most appropriate to organise a subsidy scheme where umbrella organisations can apply for =1 (ranked as 1st 2nd or 3rd important) =0 not selected
IMPLEMENT SUPPORT MEMBERS OWN ORGANIST	q37e_1	27	52	0	To implement support for the FBG it is most appropriate to organise yourself for advices by requesting to your members =1 (ranked as 1 st) =0 ranked as 2 nd or 3 rd or not selected
IMPLEMENT SUPPORT MEMBERS OWN ORGANIST	Q37e123	53	26	0	To organize support for the FBG it is most appropriate to =1 seek advice from the members (ranked as 1 st 2 nd or 3 rd important) =0 not selected

Note: missing observations (/ in the table): excluded from the regression for Dq28a_1 and Dq28b_1; for the independent variables the missing observations are assimilated to the "0" option

Annex 2. Semi-structured questionnaire

General Information

1. V	Vho is the Intervie	wer?				
O	Thomas	(0	Charlotte	0	Tessa
О	Jose-Luis	(0	Hélène	0	Bernd
О	Pepijn	(0	Paula	0	Heike
О	Other (please specif	y)				
		_				
2. V	Vhat is the study a	area?				
О	Liège	(0	Leuven	0	Wallonie autre
O	Antwerpen	(0	Bruxelles		
О	Ottignies-LLN	(0	Limburg		
3. Ir	nformation on the	interviewee				
Nam	ie					
Age						
Gen	der (M or F)					
4. N	lame of the initiat	ive (or the organi	sa	tion)		
5. D	Date of interview					
5. 🗅	Date of interview	DD MM	YY	YY		

6. 6	Give the pre-defined organisations mentioned in the questionnaire
	Réseau des Consommateurs responsables (RCR)
	Maison du Développement Durable (MDD)
	Centre de référence des circuits courts
	Grez en transition
	Réseau wallon pour une alimentation durable (RAWAD)
	Réseau des GASAP
	Bruxelles-Environnement (IBGE)
	Ixelles en transition
	Réseau Bruxellois pour une alimentation durable (RABAD)
	Bioguide
	Centre du Beau-mur (intergac)
	Liège en transition
	Ceinture alimenterre liégeoise (CATL)
	Bioforum
	Boerenbond - Landelijke Gilde
	VELT
	Voedselteams
	WERVEL
	Centres régionaux d'initiation à l'environnement CRIE
Оре	n-ended questions + Factual information on the FBG
7. F ?	Please explain briefly your role in the Food Buying Group (FBG: such as food basket schemes, CSA, etc.)
8. F	Please, explain briefly your main reasons that motivate you to participate in the FBG

9. Within your local food system, who do you share values with on the transition to sustainable food and							
consumption practices?							
please give the names of people and the organizations + some contextual facts							
10. When was your organisation	created 2						
To. When was your organisation	created :						
11. How many households does	your organisation have ?						
In 2014							
at its peak							
12 Please indicate the affirmation	on which best fits the evolution of	f the membership:					
		rule membership.					
C There are new demands from time	e to time, and you can accept them						
C There are new demands, but you	nave to refuse new members						
C There are no new demands, but ye	ou are looking for new						
C There are no new demands and ye	_						
There are no new demands and you	ou are not looking for new						
13. In the last year, were people	leaving or joining the FBG?						
	Left	Joined					
No members							
1 to 2 members		П					
1 to 2 members	L	LI .					
3 to 10 members	П						
Over 10 members							

14. If people left, it was

none of the people who left	a few	most of them	nearly all
О	0	O	О
0	0	O	C
0	O	0	O
0	O	0	0
О	O	O	О
	people who left	left a few C C C C C C	people who left a few them C C C C C C C C C

Cooperation among the actors

15. PRa. Do you use resources from other actors which are made available through a sharing arrangement (exchanged / received for use / shared) ? Where are they coming from?

	Other FBG 1	Other FBG 2	Other FBG 3	Other FBG 4	Local	Food transition related associations		Other associations (specify)	Voedselteams vzw	Producer or supplier
Software										
List of potential suppliers										
Buildings (meeting rooms, deposit space, etc.)										
Resources for common delivery of specific products										
Volunteer time										
Food-related knowledge (meals, recipes)										
Other resources (specify)										
Specify what other FBG (1,2,3, 4 if applicable), and specify if other resources are shared or other organisations that r								ns that might be	involved	

(exchanged / received for use / shared) $\ref{eq:constraints}$	To who	?					
		Other FBG 2		Local authorities	Food transition related associations		Other associations (specify)
Software							
List of potential suppliers							
Buildings (office space, meeting rooms, deposit space, etc.)				□			
Resources for common delivery of specific products							
Voluntary Work							
Food-related knowledges							
Other resources (specify)							
Specify what other FBG (1,2,3, if applicable), and specif	-						
your Food Buying Groups (FBG) ?				leg	al po	ossible o	rganisational
U 5004			uppliers			embers	structure
another FBG 1							
another FBG 2							
another FBG 3							
another FBG 4			_			_	
a producer				L			L
a local grocery, market or cooperative							
persons from local authorities							
Social organisations: mutual insurance organisation centre, municipal social services	on, medi	cal					
word of mouth or personal contacts (apart from yo	our FBG)						
Réseau des Consommateurs responsables (RCR)						
Maison du Développement Durable (MDD)							
Centre de référence des circuits courts							
Grez en transition						П	

16. PRb. Do you provide resources to other actors which you make available through a sharing arrangement

	on suppliers	legal information	possible members	organisational structure
Réseau wallon pour une alimentation durable (RAWAD)				
Réseau des GASAP				П
Bruxelles-Environnement (IBGE)				
Ixelles en transition				
Réseau Bruxellois pour une alimentation durable (RABAD)				
Bioguide				
Centre du Beau-mur (intergac)				
Liège en transition				
Ceinture alimenterre liégeoise (CATL)				
Other organisations (mention the name in the box below)				
Bioforum				
Boerenbond - Landelijke Gilde				
VELT				
Voedselteams				
WERVEL				
CRIE				
BOX: to fill in with the name of the "FBG 1, 2, 3,4 (if applicable)" or 18. COSb. Did you provide information to other organis				ıp (FBG)'s
activities?		legal	possible	organisational
another FDC 4	on suppliers	information	members	structure
another FBG 1 another FBG 2				
				_
another FBG 3			П	
another FBG 4				
a producer				
a local grocery, market or cooperative				
persons from local authorities				
Social organisations: mutual insurance organisation, medical centre, municipal social services				

	on suppliers	legal information	possible members	organisational structure		
Réseau des Consommateurs responsables (RCR)						
Maison du Développement Durable (MDD)						
Centre de référence des circuits courts						
Grez en transition						
Réseau wallon pour une alimentation durable (RAWAD)						
Réseau des GASAP						
Bruxelles-Environnement (IBGE)						
Ixelles en transition						
Réseau Bruxellois pour une alimentation durable (RABAD)						
Bioguide						
Centre du Beau-mur (intergac)						
Liège en transition						
Ceinture alimenterre liégeoise (CATL)						
Other organisations (mention the name in the box below)						
Bioforum						
Boerenbond - Landelijke Gilde						
VELT						
Voedselteams						
WERVEL						
CRIE						
BOX: to fill in with the name of the "FBG (1,2,3,4 if applicable)" or "other organisations" from the options above						

19. COPA. Do members of your FBG participate in activities* related to the food system organized by : *meetings, cultural / educational activities, community gardens, local fairs, cookery lessons, etc.

	Sometimes	Never	Not applicable
another FBG 1	O	O	O
another FBG 2	О	O	C
another FBG 3	О	О	С
another FBG 4	О	0	0

	Sometimes	Never	Not applicable
a producer	О	O	О
a local grocery, market or cooperative	O	0	0
persons from local authorities	O	О	O
Social organisations: mutual insurance organisation, medical centre, municipal social services	О	O	C
Réseau des Consommateurs responsables (RCR)	0	O	О
Maison du Développement Durable (MDD)	О	О	O
Centre de référence des circuits courts	O	О	O
Grez en transition	С	С	O
Réseau wallon pour une alimentation durable (RAWAD)	О	О	O
Réseau des GASAP	О	0	0
Bruxelles-Environnement (IBGE)	O	O	O
Ixelles en transition	О	О	О
Réseau Bruxellois pour une alimentation durable (RABAD)	O	O	О
Bioguide	О	О	О
Centre du Beau-mur (intergac)	О	О	О
Liège en transition	О	О	О
Ceinture alimenterre liégeoise (CATL)	О	О	О
Other organisations (mention the name in the box below)	О	О	О
Bioforum	О	О	О
Boerenbond - Landelijke Gilde	О	0	0
VELT	О	О	О
Voedselteams	О	0	О
WERVEL	О	О	O
CRIE	С	О	О
BOX: to fill in with the name of the "FBG (1, 2, 3, 4 if applicable)" or "o	ther organisations" fro	m the options above	е

DOM.	 with the	name or	uic i be	J (1, 2, J, -	Til applicable)	Oi	Othici	organisations	ii Oiii tiik	options as

*at its general assembly, through a newsletter, by email, through a notice board at the collection point, etc.						
	never	rarely	occasionally	regularly		
farmers markets	0	0	0	0		
products directly available at farms	O	O	O	O		
locally grown products available in local groceries	О	0	O	0		
local food cooperatives	С	С	O	О		
urban or collective garden initiatives	0	О	O	0		
event and activities linked to food from other organisations/associations	C	С	O	С		
others (please specify)	0	О	0	0		
please specify						
Governance						
21. GOOa. Who manages the coordination with supplier distributed amongst the FBG members (more than 5) done by a small coordinating group (between 2 and 5) done by a single person Comment	s in your FBC	6?				
22. GOOb. How are the general organisational tasks coormeetings, organisation of the collection point, etc)? C distributed amongst the CFBG members (more than 5) by a small coordinating group (between 2 and 5) by a single person comment	ordinated in y	our FBG (ac	counting, invitat	ion for the		

20. KNIa. Does the FBG provide information to its members on the following topics:

23.	GOS. Who decides on supply of new products in your FBG?									
0	formal decision at the General Assembly									
О	email consultation									
O	decision by a small coordination group (between 2 and 5)									
О	mainly decision by one person who coordinates									
com	nment									
	GOTO. How the person (or group of people) that are coordinate	ting is chosen?								
0	chosen by the general assembly (meeting with all the members) at a determ	nined frequency								
0	chosen by the general assembly when the previous one withdraw									
0	the person is coordinating because he created the FBG or his home is the c	lelivery point								
0	Chosen informally or on a voluntary basis when the previous one withdraw									
0	Other (please specify)									
25	GOP. What kind of support have you received from the public	authorities 2								
20.	OOI . What kind of support have you received from the public	communal authorities	regional authorities	federal authorities						
de	elivery spot, meeting room, piece of land									
sr	nall equipment (IT, storing boxes, etc.)	П	П							
CC	ommunication and oral support (in local newpaper, etc.)									
or	ne-off subsidies (from a call by the authorities)									
or	one-off subsidies (specific request by your organisation)									
st	ructural subsidies									
W	e didn't receive any support									
Oth	er (please specify)									

	General Assembly (meeting with all the members) on a frequent basis						
	Newsletter						
	Charter of values						
	small newspaper with information						
	Written operating rules						
	Legal structure as cooperative or non-profit association						
	Meetings and debate						
	Coordination group						
	Rotating coordination						
	Meals and convivial events						
	Random draw						
	Website						
	Social network (forum, facebook group)						
	collective garden organized by the FBG						
	Charged services (delivery, time invested in coordination, et	c.)					
	Working groups on specific thematic						
	Regular call to skill amongst the FBG members for specific t	acks					
	Mailing-list						
	Other (please specify)						
	GOT. What organisations do you trust for driving ltiple answers possible)	long-term tr		to susta		I don't know	ems?
		Not at all	Weak Trust	Trust	Strong Trust	this organization	Not applicable
and	other FBG 1	O	О	0	O	0	О
and	other FBG 2	0	0	0	0	0	О
and	other FBG 3	0	О	0	O	О	О
and	other FBG 4	0	0	О	0	О	0
FB	Gs in general	0	О	О	0	О	O

 \circ

O

O

О

O

 \circ

 \circ

0

О

 \circ

0

0

 \circ

0

O

 \circ

0

0

26. What kind of tools is your FBG using/providing?

a producer linked to the FBG

supermarkets

a local grocery, public market or cooperative

	Not at all	Weak Trust	Trust	Strong Trust	I don't know this organization	Not applicable
local government	0	O	O	О	O	0
national or regional governements	0	0	0	0	0	0
UE authorities	O	0	O	О	O	0
social organisations: mutual insurance organisation, medical centre, municipal social services	О	О	0	О	О	С
Réseau des Consommateurs responsables (RCR)	O	O	O	0	O	0
Maison du Développement Durable (MDD)	O	0	0	0	0	0
Centre de référence des circuits courts	O	0	O	O	O	O
Grez en transition	O	0	0	О	O	0
Réseau wallon pour une alimentation durable (RAWAD)	O	O	0	0	O	0
Réseau des GASAP	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bruxelles-Environnement (IBGE)	0	О	O	О	O	О
Ixelles en transition	0	0	0	0	0	0
Réseau Bruxellois pour une alimentation durable (RABAD)	0	О	O	О	O	О
Bioguide	0	0	0	0	0	О
Centre du Beau-mur (intergac)	0	О	O	О	0	О
Liège en transition	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ceinture alimenterre liégeoise (CATL)	0	О	O	О	0	О
other organisations (mention the name in the box below)	0	0	0	0	0	О
Bioforum	0	О	O	О	0	О
Boerenbond - Landelijke Gilde	0	0	О	0	0	0
VELT	0	О	O	О	0	О
Voedselteams	0	0	0	0	0	0
WERVEL	0	О	O	O	O	О
CRIE	0	0	0	О	О	О
BOX: to fill in with the name of the "FBG (1,2,3,4 if applicable)" or "other organisations" from the options above						

Beliefs

28. Amongst the following three goals, please rank them according to the priority to your organisation (the highest priority (1) to the least (3)
a. Support the farmers that supply the FBG (local economy, small-scale farming, sustainable farming practices)
b. Provide tasty, healthy, sustainable and affordable food to the members of the FBG (good taste, no pesticides, affordable prices, neglected vegetables)
c. Creating a participatory dynamic around food amongst the FBG members (discovering new suppliers, new products, discuss with others on sustainable food production and consumption, sharing recipes, social bonds, etc.)
29. Concerning the support to farmers, what are the main objectives pursued by the FBG, please rank from most important (1) to least important (3)
a. Supporting small-scale farming (small lanholdings)
b. Supporting the local circuits
c. Support sustainable farming practices
30. Concerning the service offered to consumers, what are the main objectives pursued by the FBG, please rank from most important (1) to least important (4)
a. Access at an affordable price to organically labelled food
b. Access at an affordable price to food from low input agriculture, but not necessarily with a label
c. Access at an affordable price to healthy and tasty food directly from the producers
d. Access at an affordable price to food with lower transport-related carbon impact
31. Concerning participatory dynamics, what are the main objectives pursued by the FBG, please rank from most important (1) to least important (4)
a.Change the consumption habits for fruit and vegetables
b.Allow FBG members to become 'actors' in the food system by empowering them
c.Meet with and create personal social relationships amongst consumers and producers in the neighbourhood
d.Debate with others issues/solutions on sustainable food production and consumption

32. BESc. What d	o you think are th	e most impo	ortant areas fo	or action by	y the governmen	t to support
sustainable food p	production and co	nsumption (rank the three	most imp	ortant 1,2 and 3)) ?

	1st important	2nd important	3rd important	Not selected
a. Subsidies or fiscal incentives for sustainable farms	O	О	O	0
b. Give more space to autonomous bottom-up initiatives in local food networks	0	0	O	O
c. Remove restrictive regulations that deter food transition activities	О	О	0	0
d. Educational activities for consumers on sustainable food production and consumption	С	С	0	0
e. Impose legal constraints on non-sustainable production and distribution practices	О	О	0	О
f. Facilitate information exchange on best practices amongst transition initiatives	0	О	O	О
g. Promote consumer labelling schemes	О	O	O	O
h. Promote the development of new technologies	O	О	O	O
Comment				
h. Promote the development of new technologies				

33. BEKd. Would you consider the following organizations either improve the existing food system, struggle against the existing food system or build a different food system?

	improves the	struggles against the	builds a different	
	existing food system	existing food system	food system	
my own FBG	О	О	O	

34. According to you, who are most influential organisations for shaping beliefs* on your Food Buying Group

*beliefs on transition to sustainable agri-food systems (do not consider shaping in opposition to these beliefs)

	No influence	Influence	I don't know this organization	Not applicable
the first closest FBG to yours (Mention the name in the box below)	О	О	O	O
the second closest FBG to yours (Mention the name in the box below)	O	O	O	O
your main supplier	O	О	0	0
Local groceries, cooperatives and local market	0	O	0	0
supermarkets	O	О	0	O
local authorities	O	О	0	0
national or regional governments	O	0	O	O

this No influence Influence organization Not applicable 0 0 0 0 EU level governments social organisations: mutual insurance organisation, medical 0 0 0 0 centre, municipal social services \circ 0 0 0 Réseau des Consommateurs responsables (RCR) 0 O 0 0 Maison du Développement Durable (MDD) Centre de référence des circuits courts \circ 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 Grez en transition \circ \circ 0 0 Réseau wallon pour une alimentation durable (RAWAD) 0 0 0 Réseau des GASAP 0 \circ 0 0 Bruxelles-Environnement (IBGE) 0 0 Ixelles en transition 0 0 0 0 Réseau Bruxellois pour une alimentation durable (RABAD) 0 0 0 0 Bioguide \circ \circ О 0 Centre du Beau-mur (intergac) 0 0 0 0 Liège en transition 0 0 0 0 Ceinture alimenterre liégeoise (CATL) 0 O 0 0 Bioforum O O 0 \circ Boerenbond - Landelijke Gilde 0 **VELT** O O 0 0 Voedselteams 0 0 0 0 **WERVEL** 0 0 0 **CRIE** 0 Remarks

I don't know

C No political dimension							
Contribute to implementing existing policies on agri-food transition							
Show to the political institutions innovative practices on how to carry out agri-food transition							
Create a new agri-food system independently of any political evo	lution because	e of the recurrent fai	lure of the pol	litical institutions			
to act decisively to reform it							
Comment							
36. What kind of support would you need to develop or in "most important need")	nprove activ	rities in your FB0	G ? (choose	e only one			
	no need	mildly needed	needed	most important need			
Financial support: subsidies, project funding, tax exemptions	О	О	0	О			
Governance support : coordination with other FBG, centralisation of some operational tasks (contact with producers, integration of new members), common code of conduct, etc.	С	O	С	O			
Technical support : software, logistic advises, information on new supliers, stockroom, tools to improve the inclusiveness or the efficiency of the FBG, etc.	О	O	О	O			
Networking and lobbying support : mapping of FBG, sharing information amongst FBG, political lobbying, etc.	О	О	О	О			
Legal support : enabling legal frameworks that facilitate activities (de-regulation, food safety considerations, etc)	О	O	0	0			
Political support : assigning higher priority to FBG within the food system	С	О	О	О			
Other (please specify)							

35. According to you, have your FBG activities a political dimension at regional/national/EU level?

37. What would be the most appropriate way to organise the supp choose the three most relevant (1,2 and 3)	ort you hav	e mentione	ed above? p	olease			
	1st important	2nd important	3rd important	Not selected			
a. The government to organize a specific administrative service with councillors/researchers/advisers to support freely all the food buying groups	О	О	O	O			
b. The government to arrange a subsidy scheme where umbrella organizations can apply for and then hire councillors/researchers/advisers team to support freely all the food buying groups	0	O	O	0			
c. Members/producers of the FBG to pay a small fee so that umbrella organizations can hire councillors/researchers/advisers team to support all the food buying groups	O	o	0	0			
d. Private councillors/researchers/advisers paid for by the members/producers of the organizations to get advice	0	0	О	0			
e. Your organization organizes itself to seek for advices by requesting to its own members	О	О	О	O			
Comment							
Beliefs on food dimensions							
BED. Choose the statement you prefer in every pair.Please choose the most preferable or the least bad option. Remarks can be provided in the box below.							
38. Choose one option							
C Food is a basic human need every human being shall enjoy every day, rega	ardless his/her	purchasing p	oower				
Freedom from hunger is a human right as important as the right not to be to	rtured						
Remarks							
39. Choose one option							
C The price of food in the market reflects well its value for human beings							
C Food shall be cheap so as to enable more people to get access to it							
Remarks							

40.	Choose one option
О	Food is a common good that should be enjoyed by all humans and governed in a common way
О	Food is a human right that shall be guaranteed by the state to all
Rer	narks
41	Choose one option
0	Food is a life-sustaining commodity that cannot be treated as other commodities
0	
	Food is an important part of my cultural identity
Rer	marks
42.	Choose one option
О	Food, as a scarce resource, has to be distributed according to market rules
0	The State has the obligation to guarantee the right to food to every citizen
D	
Rer	narks
43.	Choose one option
О	You can eat as long as you have money to purchase the food or means to produce it
О	Food is a natural resource that it is better exploited by the State
Dan	
Rer	narks
44.	Choose one option
О	Food has to look good and be cheap
O	Food has to have a high nutritional quality and be expensive
Ren	narks
	·······
45.	Choose one option
O	Food is a natural resource that it is better exploited by the private sector
О	Food is a natural resource that it is better exploited by citizens
Ren	narks

46. Choose one option
Food is a commodity whose access is exclusively determined by the purchasing power of any given customer
C Free food for all is good
Remarks
47. Choose one option
The best use of any food commodity is where it can get the best price, either fuel, feeding livestock or exporting market
C A bread loaf (or a culturally-appropriated equivalent) should be guaranteed to every citizen every day
Remarks
48. If you could receive support from researchers to improve the work of the FBG, what research questions
would you ask them to focus on ? (to solve problems you face in your organization or to improve the impact
of efforts to upscale the agri-food transition)
Extra comments and remarks
49. Extra comments from the interviewee (that are not included in the questionnaire)
50. Comments and remarks from the interviewer
(how have you perceived the interview ?, did the interviewee have time to answer ?, was he 'available' to
answer ? did he understood well the questions ?, How did he react ?, etc.)
network links

summary of networks that are mentioned during the interview

51. Which organisations were mentioned during the interview? Who is involved in the organisation (team coordinator or another member of the team)?

	Coordinator	Other team member
Bioforum		
Boerenbond / Landelijke Gilde		
VELT		
Wervel		
Natuurpunt	□	
KVLV KAV femma		
Wereldwinkel / Oxfam	□	
Local politics		
Broederlijk Delen	□	
Parochie		
Scouts		
Buurtfeesten		
Freinet school		
11.11.11		
Vredeseilanden		П
Gezinsbond		
Ouderraad		
Repaircafe		
Poverty network (Comozie, arbeidszorg, bezorgommensen, lampeke, .)		
LEDS		
EVA (vegetarian)		