



Flanders
State of the Art



**DEPARTMENT OF
CARE**



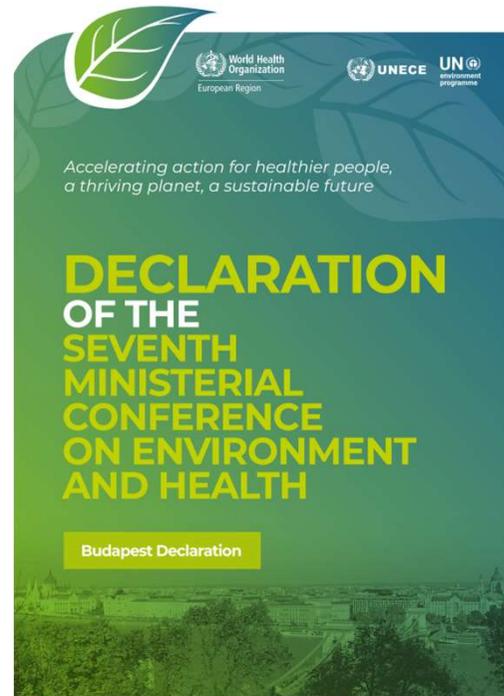
European Committee
of the Regions



departementzorg.be

Bart Bautmans
Team leader
Environmental
Healthcare Team

Succes Factors
Environmental
Healthcare
Climate Change



Loss of Biodiversity
 Environmental Pollution
 Climate Change

Accelerating action for healthier people, a thriving planet, a sustainable future

Think Global, Act Local, Act Now ... for our Future !!!

'The key is to use science *and* listen to the needs of the people

– health capacity building for maximal impact'

Population Health Management



Sustainable Development Goals as a step up



Modular and evidence-based approach



Data driven insights



Proportional Universalism



Health-protective and -promoting environment



Health in all Policies based on One-Health principles



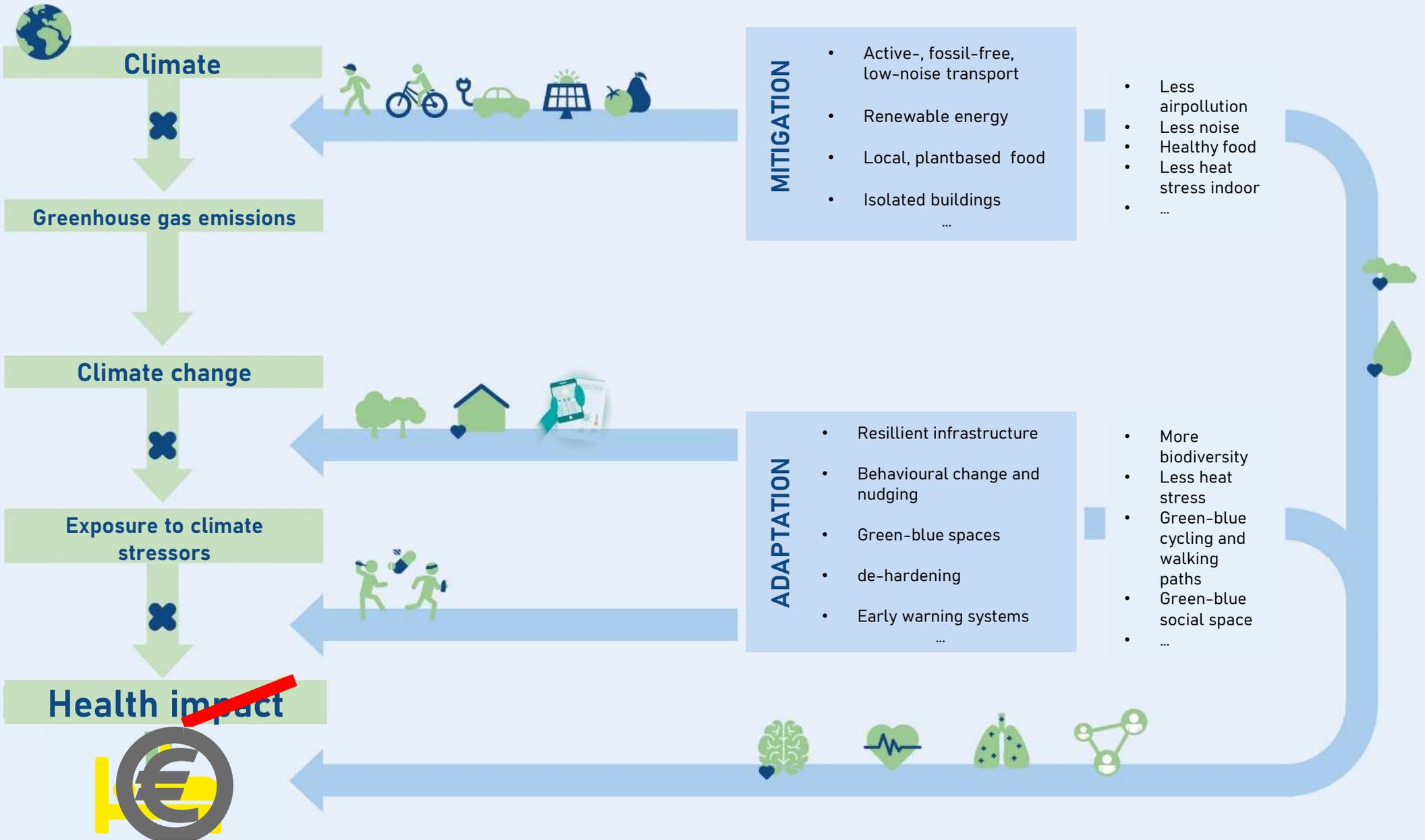
Precautionary principle



Positive vision



Preventive Health Policy
8 principles





By 2030,
there will be a favorable trend
in the environmental burden of disease
among Flemish people.

Health goal on
environment

4 DECEMBER 2023 - BRUSSEL



Climate Health Plan

A

**WIN-WIN
PLAN**

for Your health
and Our climate



Decree on Preventive Health Policy

Article 56/1

“The Flemish Government can take initiatives
to detect, prevent, and combat
the health impacts of climate change. ... “

Adopted by parliament on April 26th 2024

Local social policy Decree

- Strong social policy at the local level
- Support to local authorities implementing local social policy on health and wellbeing

1. **Mandate anchored in legislation**



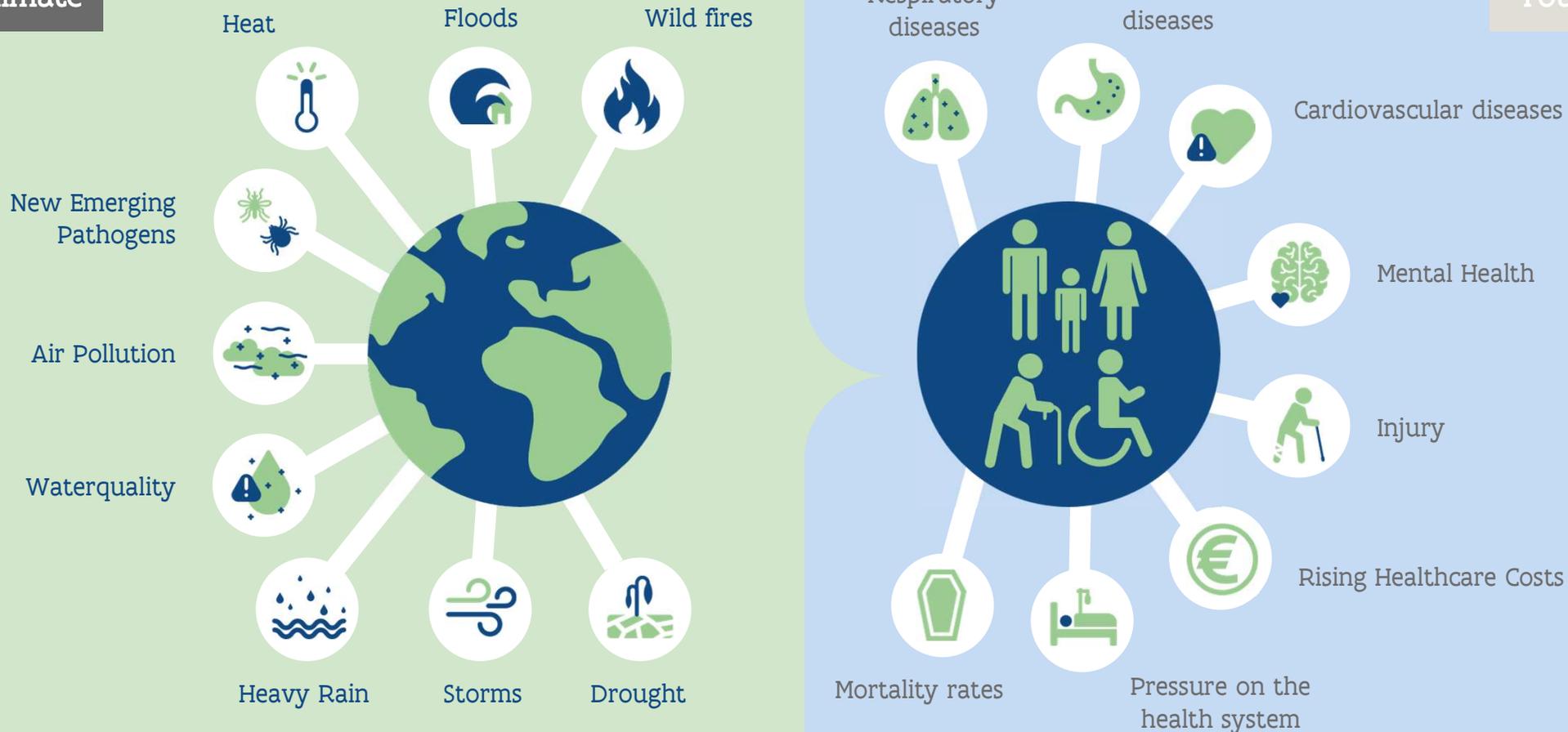
- 2. Internal and external cooperation
- 3. Interdisciplinary capacity on knowledge

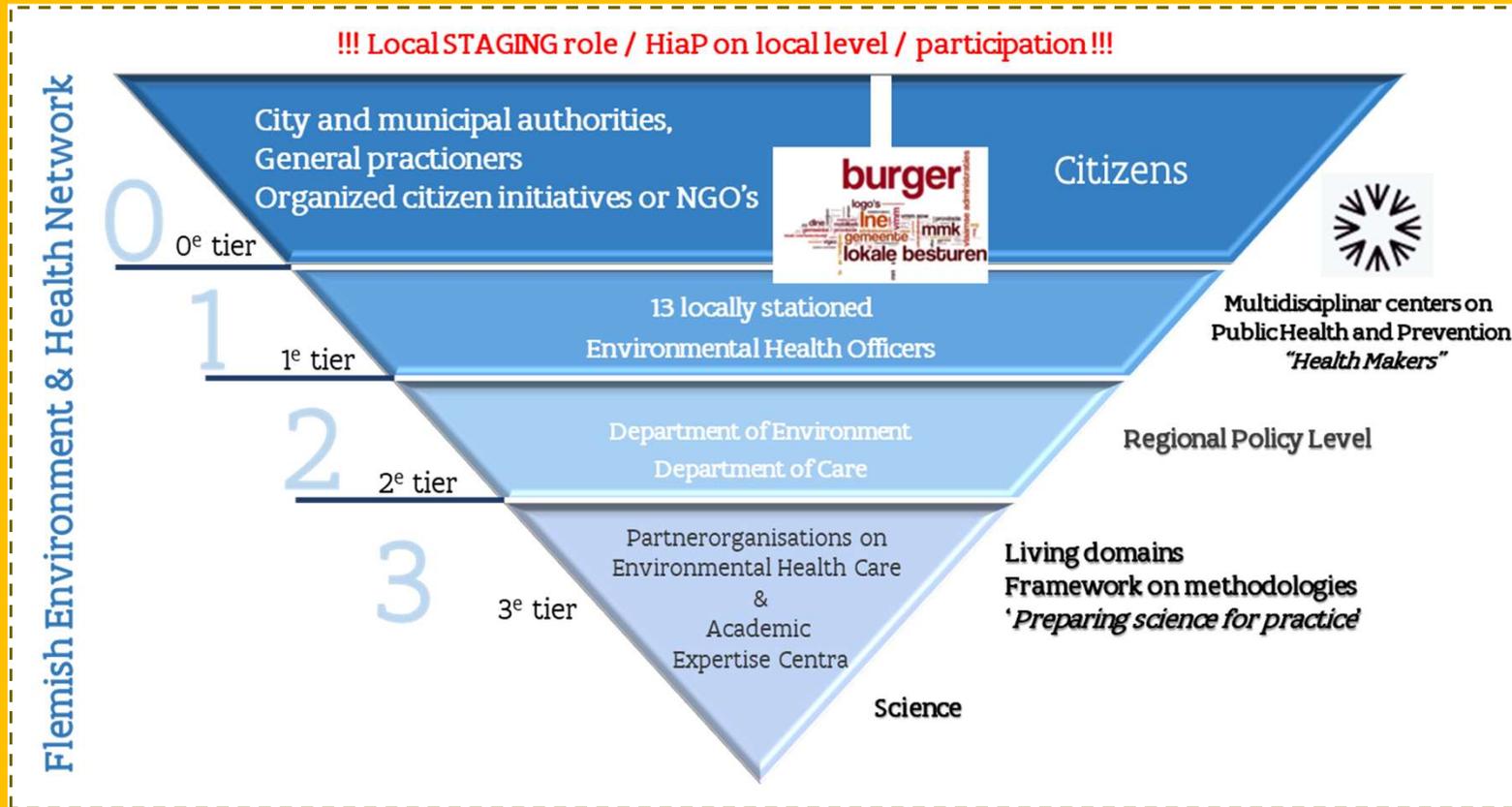


The health effects of climate change

Our Climate

Your Health





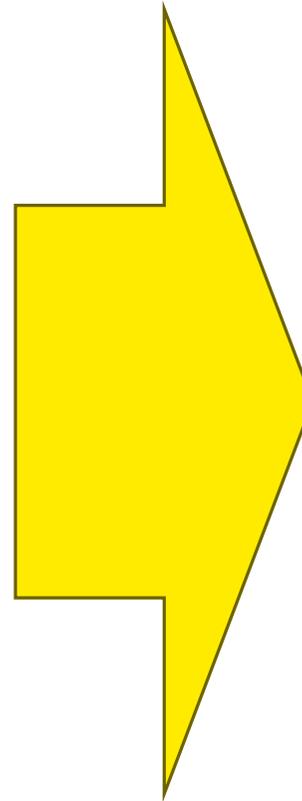
National Environmental Health Action Plan

4. Structure: integrated care environmental health and wellbeing



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Climate Health Plan
A
WIN-WIN
PLAN
for Your health
and Our climate



5. Processes are key to a sustainable approach

70 organisaties



6. Participation in health roadmaps on climate neutrality and climate adaptation

In...

...du

...cing

FEAR



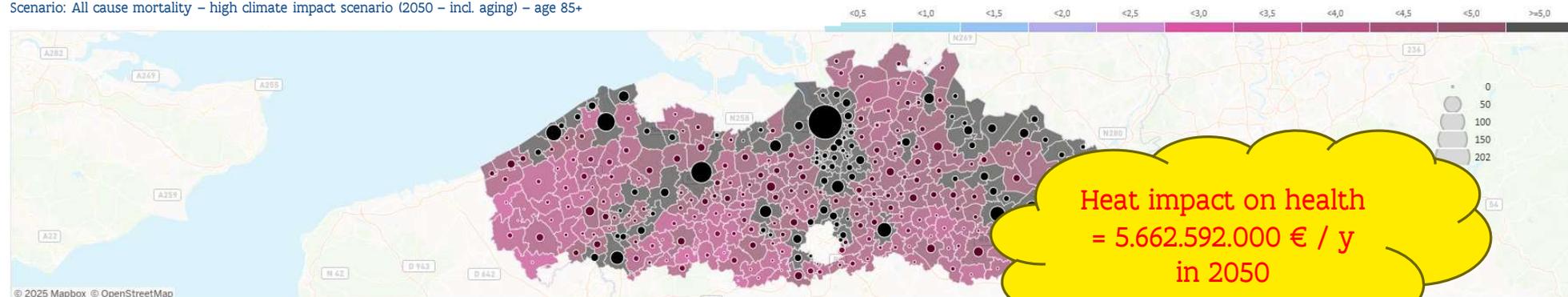
Positive



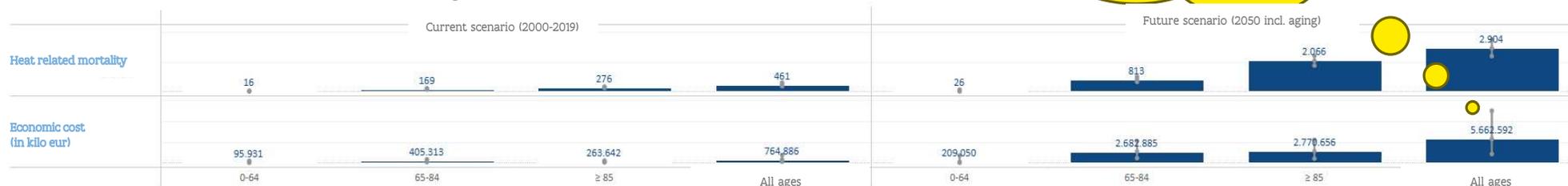
Health

Excess mortality during summer

Scenario: All cause mortality – high climate impact scenario (2050 – incl. aging) – age 85+

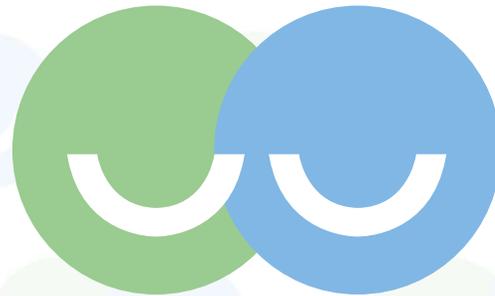


Overview current and future scenario for all ages



8. Data and Indicators

Climate Health Plan



A Win-Win Plan

Bart.Bautmans@vlaanderen.be

Team leader Environmental Health Care

Public Health Officer

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zorg@vlaanderen.be - departementzorg.be



Katrien Tersago
Environmental
Epidemiologist

**Coordinating
climate resilience and
climate neutrality within
the Departement of Care**



Flanders
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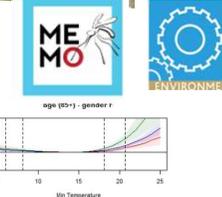
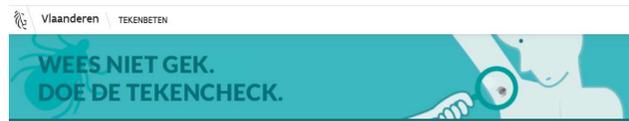


**Coordinating
climate resilience and climate neutrality
within the Department of Care**

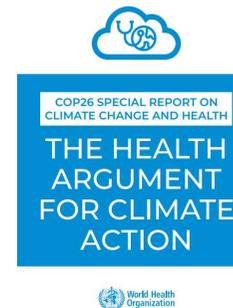
From a preventive health policy perspective

How it started...

2003



2021



→ Climate-health plan Flanders

→ Environmental Health goals: priorities for prevention policy

How it started ...



Long term vision for a climate healthy care system and society towards 2040:

- Roles and responsibilities of public health and well-being policy domain
- Integrate the health argument for climate action
- Group existing actions
- Governance structure



How it started...



Preventive Health Goals Environmental Health care: Climate and health -> specific actions towards 2030



Data



Procedures: who does what, when



Support local actors



Citizen nudging



Resilient and neutral care



Impact larger for those that are most vulnerable



Age



Environment



Medical



Behaviour



Socio-economic

Challenges



De tijgermug verspreidt knokkelkoorts, chikungunya en zika.
Foto: Gemeente Lebbeke

Westnijlvirus en dengue in opmars in Europa: zo kan je je er tegen beschermen als je deze zomer naar het zuiden trekt

In Europa breken er steeds meer tropische ziekten uit die worden verspreid door muggen, zoals dengue en westnijlvirus. Daarvoor waarschuwt het Europese Centrum voor Ziektepreventie en -bestrijding (ECDC). Door de mildere winters en warmere zomers vestigen die tropische muggensoorten zich ook bij ons. Wie deze zomer op vakantie gaat



© ANP / EPA

Deze landen lopen grootste risico op hittegolf die alle records vernulvert

EHP Partnership for Health Sector Climate Action

in een studie die gisteren gepubliceerd werd in het gerenommeerde

Blauwalgen bederven waterpret: 'Ze zullen steeds vaker voorkomen'



013. DUURZAME ZORG **GREENDEAL**



GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS OF THE BELGIAN HEALTH CARE SECTOR



THIS REPORT WAS MADE POSSIBLE BY:
THE BELGIAN NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ACTION PLAN (NEMAP) (SABER@milieudefensie.be)
HEALTH CARE WITHOUT HARM EUROPE (EUROPE.NOSHARM.ORG)
ARUP (ARUP.COM)



WHO GUIDANCE FOR CLIMATE-RESILIENT AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE HEALTH CARE FACILITIES



Operational framework for building climate resilient and low carbon health systems

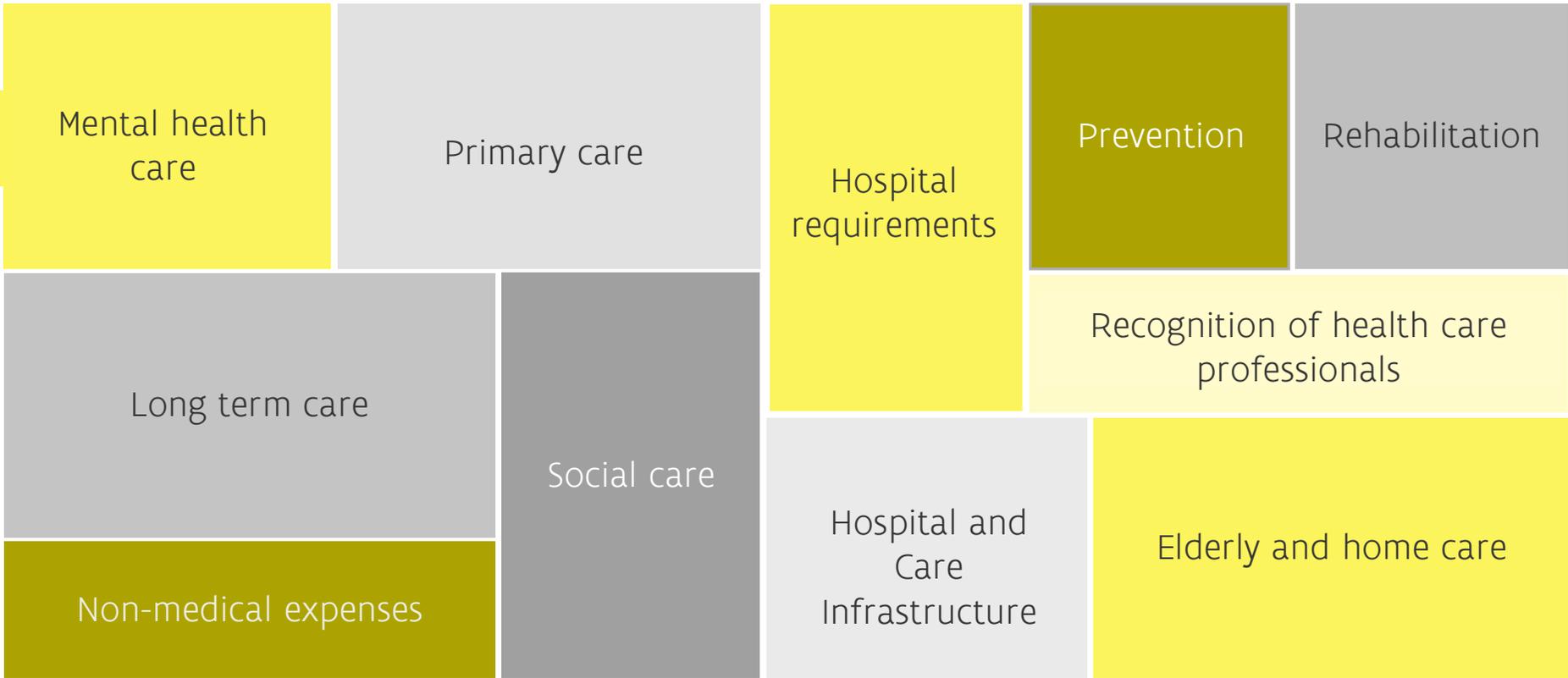


CLIMATE CHANGE AND HEALTH VULNERABILITY AND ADAPTATION ASSESSMENT



CHECKLISTS TO ASSESS VULNERABILITIES IN HEALTH CARE FACILITIES IN THE CONTEXT OF CLIMATE CHANGE

DEPARTMENT OF CARE



+ Broadened to Policy domain Welfare, Public health and Family matters

Seizing opportunities

2023 - 2024



How will we implement the different action lines that support climate resilience and climate neutrality in collaboration and in agreement?

Highlight need for:

- ▶ Coordination among different divisions of our department and policy domain
- ▶ Clear mandates and responsibilities for all



Climate Programme contents

Framework for actions

1. Target group specific & tailored
2. In partnership
3. Inclusive measures
4. Feasibility in practice

Common thread

Health and well-being in all policies Co-benefits Well-being and health are translated in all themes

PART 1 – Climate Resilience

Target: limit negative impact on health and well-being of climate change on the population and our care sector is resilient

Themes

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Changes in weather | Incl. heatstress, flooding, ... |
| Emerging diseases and water quality | Incl. emerging vectors, pollen, infections |
| Mental en social welfare | Incl. vulnerabilities and impact on communities |

Target groups

1. Care setting
2. Citizens (incl. care user)

Work

- | | | |
|----------------|---|-----|
| Measure (data) | Analyze | Act |
| | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Information & sensibilisation 2. Preventive & reactive action <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. structural = preventive b. crisis = reactive | → |

PART 2 – Climate neutrality

Doel: care sector is climate neutral in 2050 (= greenhouse gas emission set to 0)

Themes

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Mobility and E-use of own buildings | Food |
| Infrastructure and use of sites | Medication |
| Material use in care | Health organisation |

Target groups

1. Care setting > Policy domain
2. Policy domain
3. Care user

Work

- | | | |
|----------------|---|-----|
| Measure (data) | Analyze | Act |
| | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Information & sensibilisation 2. Actions -> Climate neutral care in 2050 | → |

Climate Governance

CABINET



MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
policy domain welfare, public health and family matters



PROGRAM MANAGER

Climate resilience & climate neutrality care



OVERARCHING CLIMATE GROUP (all entities policy domain)

- Project leaders of theme working groups climate
- Climate responsibility per team/ division (at least informed)
- SPOCs of related initiatives (bv. NEHAP, Social climate plan, ...)



Part 1 – Climate resilience

Target: limit negative impact on health and well-being of climate change on the population and our care sector is resilient

Themes

Changing weather

Emerging diseases and water quality

Mental and social welfare



Part 2 – Climate neutrality

Target: care sector is climate neutral in 2050 (= greenhouse gas emission set to 0)

Themes

Mobility and E-use of own buildings

Infrastructure and use of sites

Material use in care

Food

Medication

Health organisation





SHOULD WE TALK ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AS WELL?

SHOULD WE TALK ABOUT HEALTH SYSTEM RESILIENCE AS WELL?

THAT'S THEIR DEPARTMENT.

NETJE

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**Sofie Desmet
&
Erwin Daenen**
Policy Officers

**Green Deal
Sustainable Care**

Green Deal Sustainable Care



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State of the Art



DEPARTMENT OF
CARE

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Green Deals in Flanders

= A tool for change



Why?

- Solutions needed for environmental challenges
- Greening the Flemish economy

**GREEN
DEALS**

GREENDEALS.BE



What?

- Initiative by the Flemish government
- Voluntary, ambitious agreements between companies, organizations and the government
- Goal: achieve sustainable actions together within a short timeframe

Characteristics

- Bottom-up initiatives preferred
- Government as a collaborative partner
- SMART objectives - more ambitious than current practices
- Collaboration is crucial
- Duration of 3 to 4 years
- High-level commitment

**GREEN
DEALS**

GREENDEALS.BE

What not?

- No European deals

These are Green Deals at the Flemish level
(however – they do contribute to the European Commission's climate goals)

- No obligation to achieve results

Parties in a Green Deal commit to doing what they can.
In short, it is a **best-efforts obligation**

- No subsidy mechanism

The logo for Green Deals, featuring the text "GREEN DEALS" in white on a green background. A small leaf icon is visible in the top right corner of the green area.

GREEN
DEALS

GREENDEALS.BE

Global goals

➤ Greening the economy

Green Deals are a lever for sustainability, driven from the bottom up and without additional legislation and regulations

➤ Bringing parties together

a wealth of knowledge exists within various companies and organizations
But in practice, they rarely meet

➤ Detecting needs

through this participatory approach, the Flemish government is more aware of the needs of companies, organizations, and civil society

➤ Removing bottlenecks

obstacles within legislation, regulations, financing, and support can be exposed and removed

➤ Increasing visibility

Green Deals highlight the efforts of both society and policymakers

**GREEN
DEALS**

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Green Deals in numbers

- First one started in March 2017
- Now: **20 signed Green Deals** -> 10 finished (yellow)



001. Shared mobility

002. Circular purchasing

003. Breweries

004. Business & Biodiversity

005. Domestic Wood Heating

006. Circular Construction

007. Sustainable Urban Logistics

008. Natural Gardens

009. Climate-friendly Cooling

010. Protein shift on Our Plates

011. Sports Fields

012. Different Packaging

013. Sustainable Healthcare

014. Renting and Sharing

015. Inland Shipping

016. Nature-inclusive Parking Lots

017. Climate-resilient Environment

018. Wild Pollinators in the Mining Sector

019. Shared Mobility and Housing

020. Garden Streets



013.
DUURZAME
ZORG

GREENDEAL

Towards a 'Green Deal Sustainable Care'

Started on the 15th of March 2023

Preparation fase

Together with representatives from the care sector and external experts

- Defining the focus & structure (themes)
- Defining global objectives
- For each theme: Defining sub-objectives and concrete actions (83 in total)

Bundled together in an **inspiration document**
= menu carte to inspire care organisations
to join

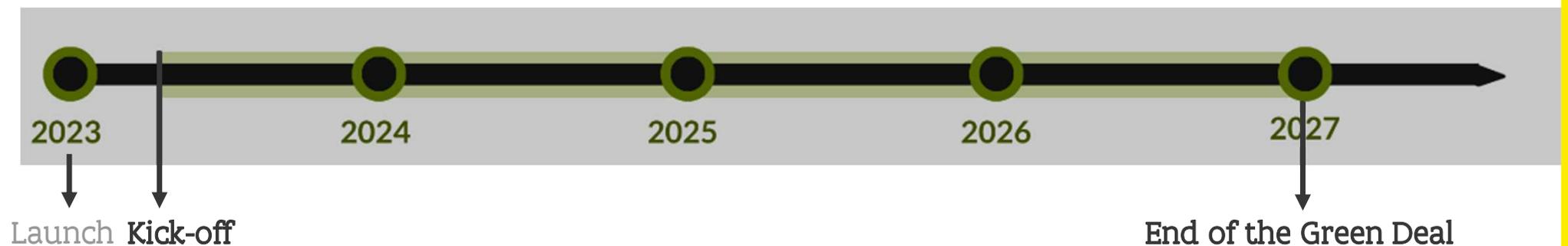


Towards a 'Green Deal Sustainable Care'

Started on the 15th of March 2023

Launch => Announcement to the entire care sector

- Invitation to register as a participant: voluntary
- Effort commitment
- Condition to join - commitment for at least 2 actions
- Open for organisation from other sectors
- BUT: actions need to contribute to sustainable care
- Short-term – until the end of 2026



Towards a 'Green Deal Sustainable Care' 2023

Started on the 15th of March

'Declaration of intent' signed by

- ✓ The Flemish Minister for Welfare, Public Health and Family
- ✓ The Flemish Minister for Environment

Kick-off

= Festive start of the Green Deal

- ✓ 146 participating organisations



Global objectives

1. Making the care sector more sustainable = main objective
 - Reduce CO₂ emissions
 - Use materials more efficiently and circularly – produce less waste
 - Reduce the presence of residues from pharmaceuticals in Flemish waterways
 - Create natural environments on and around sites of care organisations
2. Promote the **'One Health'** principle
3. Establish a **learning network**
4. Increase **knowledge** about sustainable care
5. Develop coherent and aligned **policy** that facilitate sustainability in the care sector

Structure

➔ 4 themes



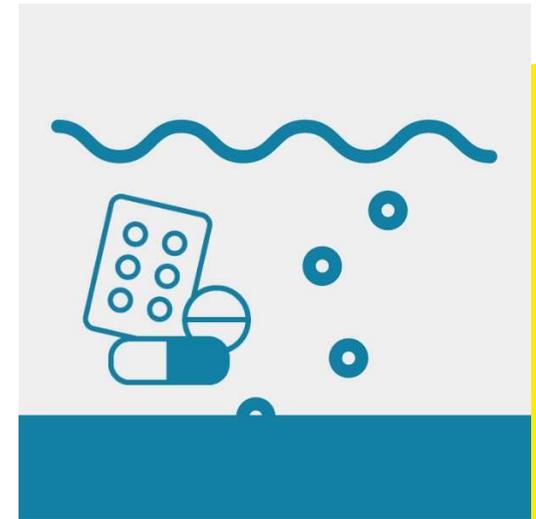
Nature and
health



Climate and
infrastructure



Materials and
waste



Medicines in
(waste)water

Structure

➔ 4 themes ➔ Clusters

- Healthy and natural environment
- Promotion of a healthy living environment



Nature and health

- Waste prevention
- Implementation and consultation
- Pilot projects

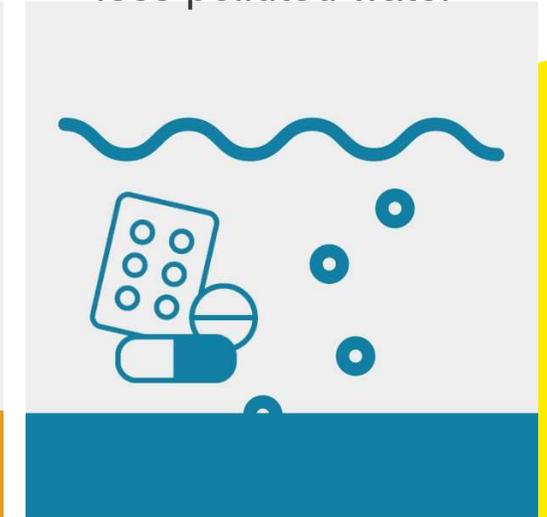


Climate and infrastructure

- Creating awareness
- Green medicines
- Targeted actions towards less polluted water



Materials and waste



Medicines in (waste)water

Structure

➔ 4 themes ➔ Clusters

Buildings

Organization

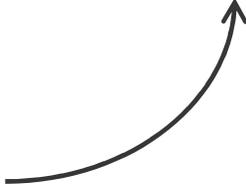
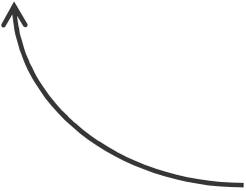
Energy

Nutrition

Mobility



Climate and
infrastructure



Targets at 3 levels

- Participating organizations
own engagement in achieving chosen actions
- Learning network
organized activities within the 4 themes or overarching activities to inspire, share knowledge and guidelines, work together
- Concrete goals/products per theme:

Nature and health

- Caring nature map: where to find caring nature in Flanders
- Caring nature checklist and criteria for quality
- Caring nature tool to choose plants/vegetation
- Overview of caring nature interventions

Climate and infrastructure

- Tool for sustainable entrepreneurship
- Template for voluntary sustainability reporting
- Call to promote bike-leasing
- Script for sustainable mobility
- Overview of plant-based dishes for large healthcare kitchens

➤ Concrete goals/products per theme:

Materials and waste

- Refuse: script to prevent excessive use of disposable products
- Reuse: validation of the ReCure-map through new cases in hospitals and for use in other medical contexts
- Recycle: overview of products to recycle, orderly by type of material and interpretation via documented good practices

Medicines in (waste)water

- Reinforced cross-border cooperation
- Flemish priority list of eco-toxic medicines
- Tool to prioritize medicines in care institutions
- Methodology agreement framework for hotspot analyses within hospitals
- Integration of eco-toxicity in considerations on sustainability
- Overview of measures and tools to reduce the impact of medicines in water

➤ **Overarching** goals/products:

- Joint state of demand for sustainable procurement
- Guidelines for purchasers
- Tuning and integrating existing tools
- Sustainability in care education

Overarching government

= facilitator

1. Establish and maintain a well-functioning governance

Participating organizations

Inform, inspire, monitor, central point of contact

Theme initiators

Support

Steering committee

Organize (prepare, report, follow-up)

2. Capture and initiate

From a facilitating role: establishing a broad network

Focus on working towards **deliverables** for this learning network

= creating tools and paths to structurally embed sustainable care

3. Matchmaker

Within learning network

With parallel initiatives and relevant actors (Flanders, Belgium and

EU)

4. Consolidation

Deliverables in the picture, overview of best practices, recommendations, next

steps...

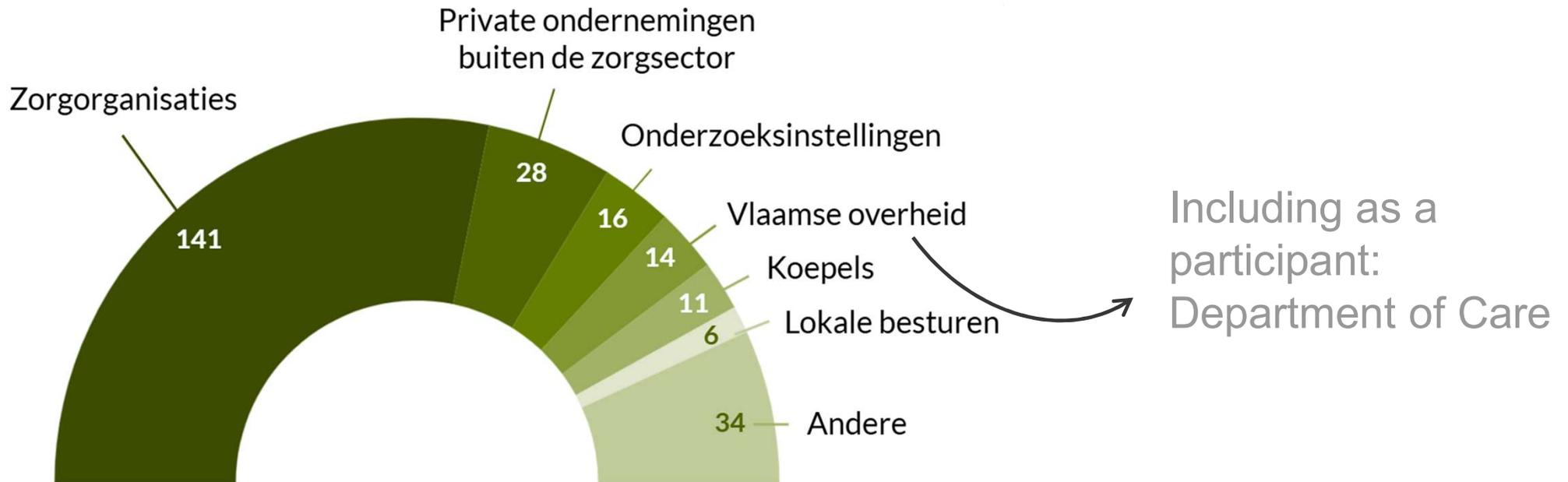
Where are we now?

The Green Deal in numbers

229
Participating organizations



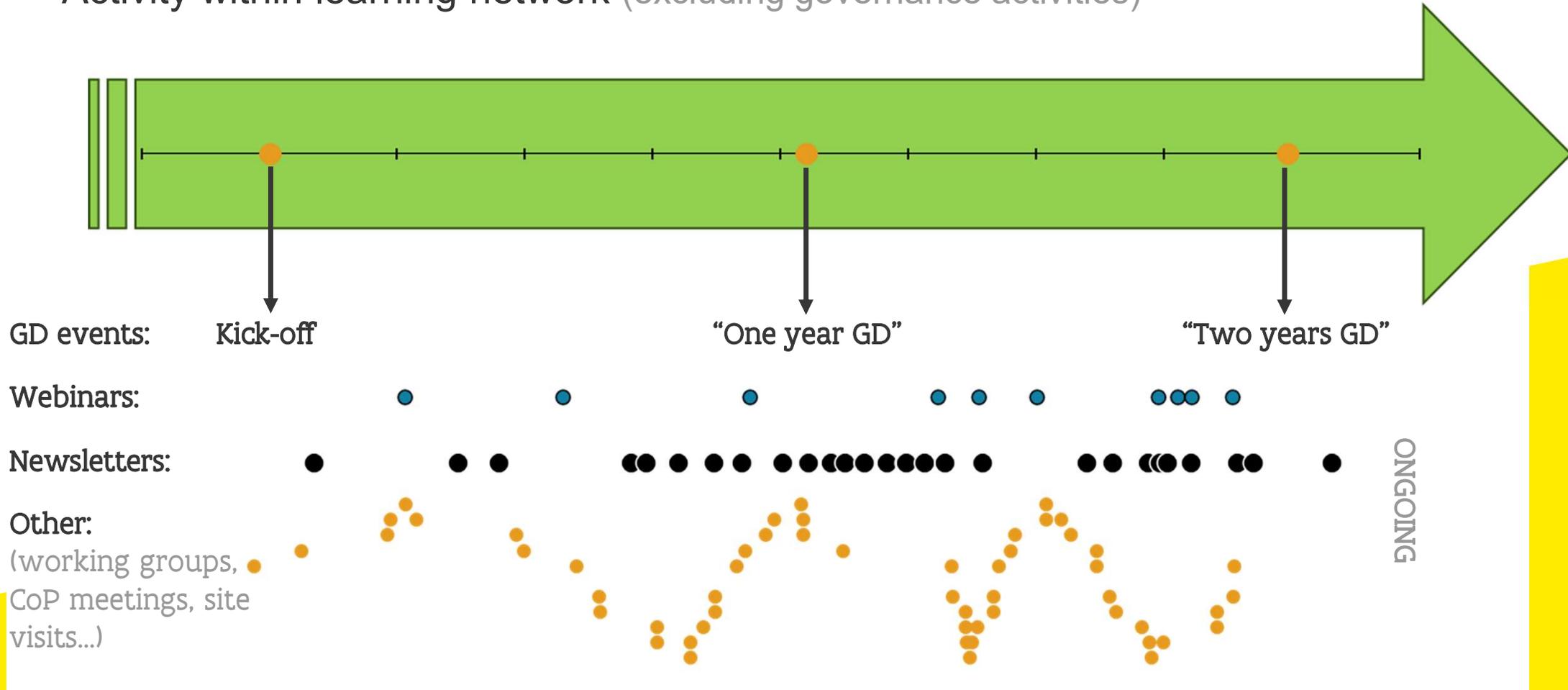
141 organizations
from
care sector



Where are we now?

The Green Deal in numbers

Activity within learning network (excluding governance activities)





www.greendealduurzamezorg.be

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**Sara Feys
&
Hannah Bohez
Policy Officers**

Healthcare facilities = independant organisations, not centrally managed/owned by the Flemisch government.

Eg: building engineering and financial advice, energy audits

Construction and renovation

Climate plan Agression prevention

Advice, guidance and funding

Collaborations

dept. Care, Opgroeien, VAPH, VEB, INTER, ANB, dept. Of Education, ...

VITO, KUL, ... Umbrella organisations

Eg: climate agreement, Research energy neutral hospitals, green deal

VIPA*
Affordable,
high-quality,
sustainable

Eg: self -assesment tools for fire safety/childcare

Developing regulations

Providing tools Inspirational examples

Supporting Policy and Projects

Knowledge building & sharing

Sustainable and healthy Accesibility

Fire safety Multifunctional infrastructure

Eg: research guidelines sustainable and healthy infrastructure



KDV Kakelbont
Zampone @ Linde Raedschelders



CAW Oost-Vlaanderen
Volt architecten @ Dennis Desmet



Ruyskensveld
Osar architects @ Nick Claeskens



Psychiatric Hospital H. Familie
VK architects + engineers @ Klaas Verdru



DVC Zevenbergen
Nu architectuurstudio @ Stijn Bollaert



Borgerstein
Archipelago @ Gilles Alonso



CAW West-Vlaanderen
Ba.p @ Steven Massart



ZNA Cadix
Robbrecht and Daem, VK architects and engineering @ Filip Dujardin

Wide range in... scale of buildings



Wide range in... places, functions and technical specs



De Lovie
Maes & Vandelannoote architecten en Dertien12 architectuuratelier @ Stijn Bollaert



Huize Perrekes
Nu architectuuratelier @ Stijn Bollaert



CODA
Noa architecten @ Filip Dujardin



DVC Zevenbergen
Nu architectuuratelier @ Stijn Bollaert



Nieuw Kinderland
Zampone @ Filip Dujardin



UZ Leuven @ Bram Tack



The healthcare sector is responsible for 5% of Belgium's total greenhouse gas emissions.

("Net Zero Operation Report, Belgium" ,Healthcare without Harm, Arup, 2024):

5 procent van de CO₂-uitstoot: ook zorg is grote vervuiler

Begren medisch afval, energieverbruikende gebouwen, vervuillende anesthesiegassen. Voor het eerst is de ecologische voetafdruk van de Belgische gezondheidszorg in kaart gebracht. Conclusie: de geamiblerende nuhustoot is nog veraf.

FEMKE VAN GARDEREN

Wie aan een ziekenhuis denkt, denkt niet meteen aan het klimaat. Toch is het een erg vervuillende plek. Neem een operatiekamer. Omdat alles er steriel moet zijn, worden chirurgische doeken, misten of handschoenen vaak na eenmalig gebruik weggegooid. Zelfs setjes met metaalen mesjes en scharen en dure rierna-chines belanden meestal meteen in een vuilniszak. Medewerkers vragen: 'Kan dit echt niet anders?', zegt Kristien Depaepe, duurzaamheidscoördinatrice van het UZ Leuven.

Ook anesthesiegassen waarmee patiënten onder narcose gebracht worden, zijn schadelijk voor het milieu. Die pakke het ziekenhuis al aan. Maar ongevoegd staat het er nog vol met elektronische apparaten, moeten duizenden kamers en kantoren versuurd worden en is het een voortdurend af en aan rijden van ambulances en auto's. We werken op al die plekken aan duurzame oplossingen. Maar we zijn er nog lang niet.' Tot die vaststelling komt ook 'Operation Zero', een rapport dat milieu- en gezondheidsadministraties bezinnen. Dat gaf hen voor het eerst een gedetailleerd zicht op de voetafdruk van de Belgische gezondheidszorg. De sector bijlt goed voor 9900 kiloton CO₂ per jaar - 5 procent van alle CO₂-uitstoot in ons land.

Niet alleen de directe emissies, zoals die van auto's en stadsolie, leiden tot dat cijfer. Voor het eerst zijn ook indirecte emissies in kaart gebracht. Die worden niet door de zorgverleners zelf veroorzaakt, maar hebben te maken met goederen of diensten die ze aankopen. Denk aan geneesmiddelen. Die worden vaak in meer vervuillende landen gemaakt, zoals China, en vandaar naar ons land getransporteerd. Dat proces zet grote druk op het klimaat - dit keer meer zelfs dan de uitstoot door fossiele brandstoffen.

Hoeveer de aankoop en vervoer van uitstootrijke producten bijdragen, is opvallend. Daar moet meer aandacht naartoe', zegt Ylfer Holten van Bond Beter Leefmilieu, die niet bij de studie betrokken was.

Hij plaatst de zorg als vervuiler wel in perspectief. Kijk je naar de hele industriële sector, dan zijn die goed voor iets minder dan de helft van de Belgische CO₂-uitstoot. 'Alleen al de directe emissies van BNP lopen tot in de 3 megaton CO₂'.

Dat omkade de gezondheidszorg niet van haar verantwoordelijkheid. Zonder beleid neemt de uitstoot tegen 2050 met 6,6 procent toe, stelt de studie. België raakt dan nog verder weg van de behelst tijdens de jongste klimaatop van een klimaatneutrale sector binnen 25 jaar.

Om dat te realiseren, reikt het bureau achter de studie een actie-

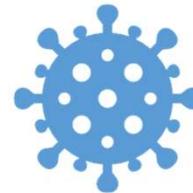
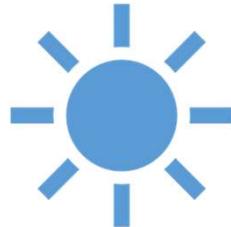
plan aan. Dat omvat maatregelen op 46 domeinen, zoals meer hernieuwbare energie, emissievrije gebouwen en zelfs duurzame groeide-voeding. De sector zelf is er volop mee bezig. Bijvoorbeeld via de Caren Deal Duurzame Zorg, een initiatief van de Vlaamse overheid. Er zijn 226 deelnemers, waaronder ook UZ Leuven. Het heeft met een duurzaamheidsplan tot 2030 afgewerkt, met onder meer een zonnepaneelpark. Dat moet in een eerste fase ongeveer 30 procent van het elektriciteitsverbruik produceren. Ook moet de afvalberg elk jaar 100 ton verkleinen.

Verlaging hebben we herbruikbaar operatiemateriaal geïntroduceerd', aldus Depaepe. Maar roept veng veel geld en organisatie, want al die misten moeten verzameld, gewas-

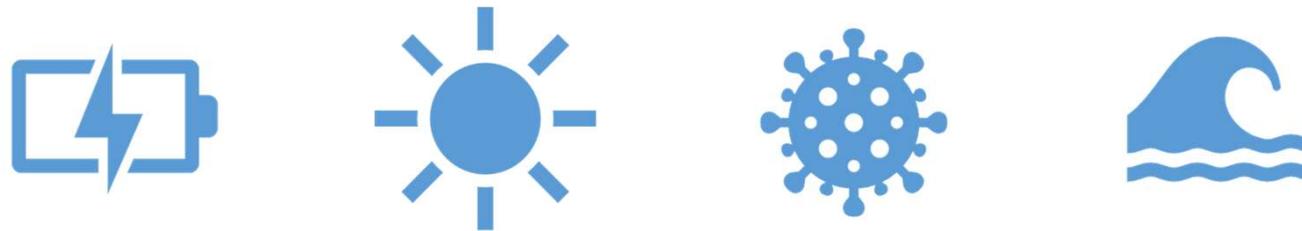
en en getransporteerd worden. Hetzelfde geldt voor het steriliseren van allerlei materiaal. Dat is vaak duurder dan de weopropietje'.

Er is nog veel werk voor een nul-uitstoot tegen 2050, concludeert professor milieueconomie Johan Albrecht (UGent en Inera). 'Het energetisch renoveren van steekverouderde ziekenhuisgebouwen kan renderen, maar is ook een organisatorische uitdaging. Grote afdelingen kunnen hun patiënten niet even een paar maand naar huis sturen omdat er gerevoverd wordt'. Ook is het budgetair niet evident: veel ziekenhuizen draaien met verlies. 'En qua medicatie zijn we inderdaad sterk afhankelijk van het buitenland. Het zal tijd vragen die productie 'leeds te 'rechten'.

WHY -CHALLENGES



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HOW -Policytools

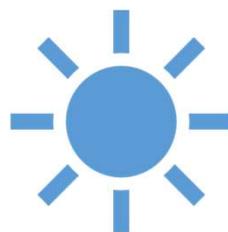
1. Climate and energy support programme
2. Sustainability criteria

1. Climate and Energy support programme

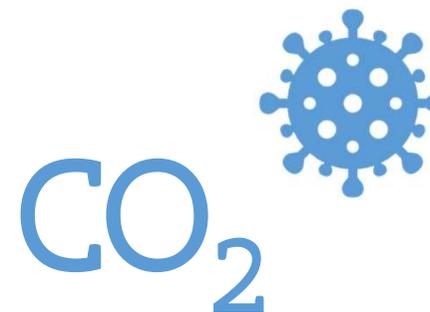
First step = Free Audit



Energy-audit



Summer comfort-
audit



Ventilation-audit

TERRA- Energy Data Base

Maatregelen



Referentie-code	Prioriteit ↓	Naam	Energie-besparing	CO ₂ besparing	Investering	Terug-verdientijd	Uitgevoerd	Acties
202457440	1 - Zeer hoog	Sensibilisering	21020 kWh	1,96 ton	100 €	0,10 jaar	✘	
202463709	2 - Hoog	Energiemonitoring	7007 kWh	0,65 ton	6000 €	9,00 jaar	✘	
202497544	2 - Hoog	Isolatie plat dak oud gedeelte	27229 kWh	4,97 ton	240400 €	44,40 jaar	✘	
202428309	2 - Hoog	Isolatie hellende dak daken	10480 kWh	1,91 ton	107100 €	47,70 jaar	✘	
202426508	2 - Hoog	Oud gedeelte buitengevelisolatie	15479 kWh	2,82 ton	333000 €	> 50 jaar	✘	
202420708	2 - Hoog	Buitenschrijnwerk oud gedeelte	24609 kWh	4,49 ton	156400 €	37,60 jaar	✘	
202487850	2 - Hoog	Vloerisolatie oud gedeelte	36906 kWh	6,73 ton	124100 €	24,50 jaar	✘	

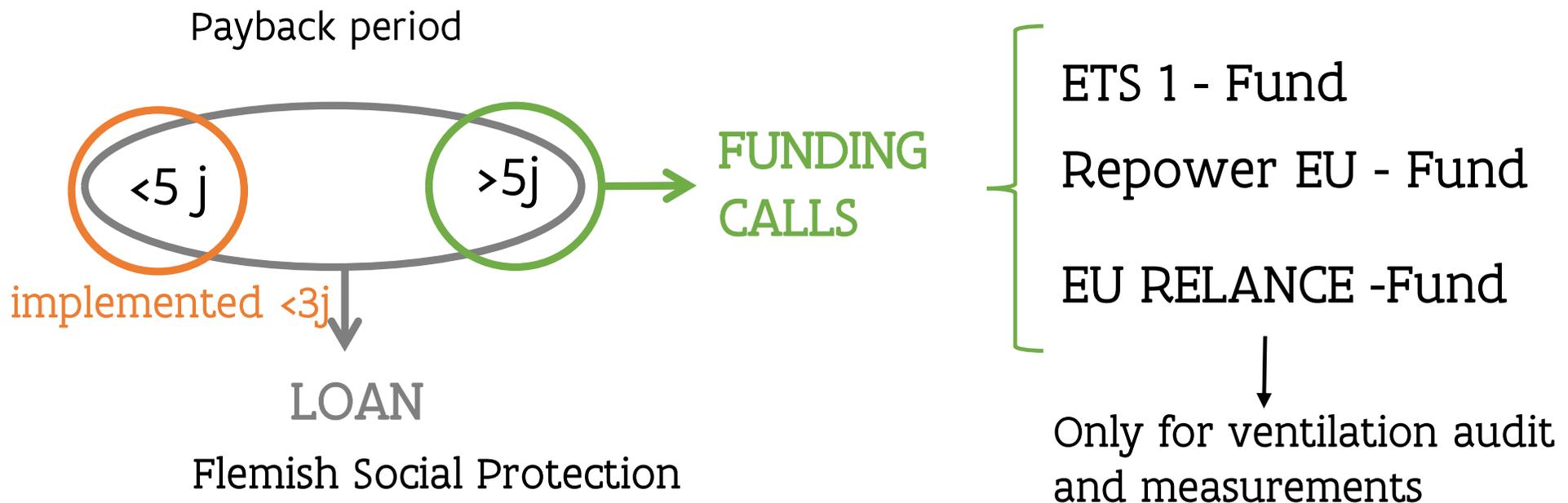


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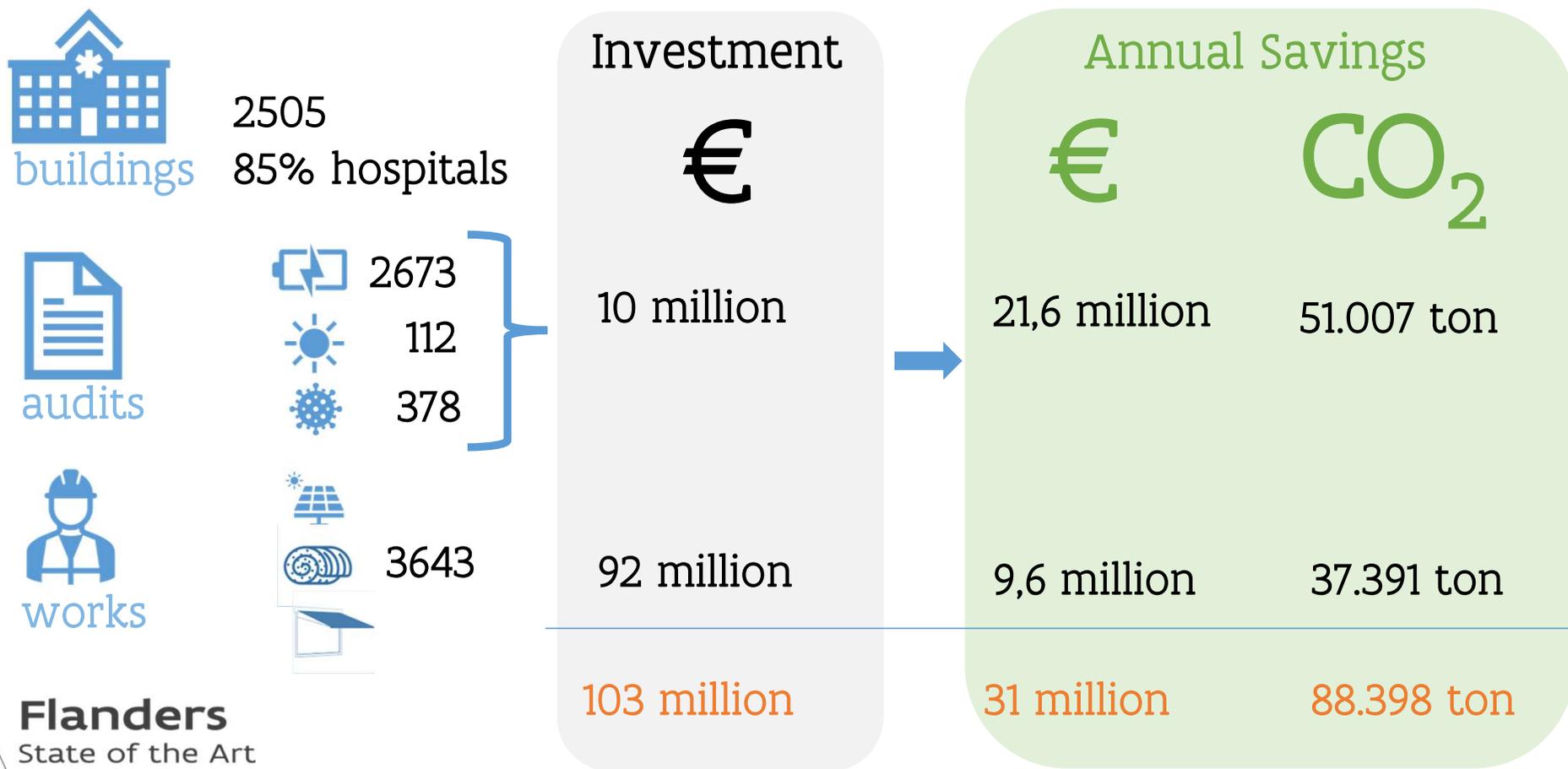


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Fundings and loans (Dec 2018-June 2025)



The Figures – Annual Return of investment

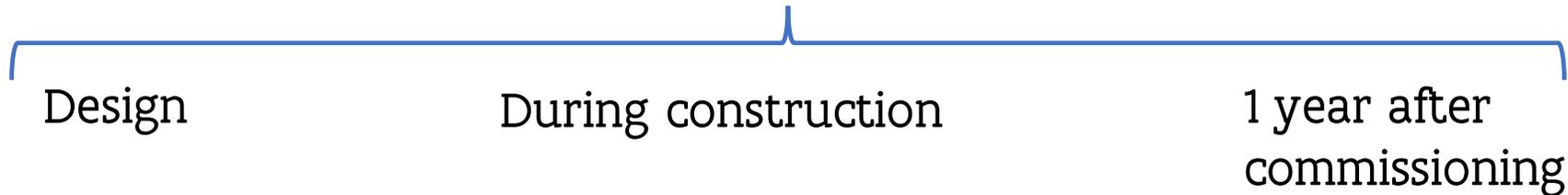


2. Sustainability criteria ~ funding



- Functional advice +
- Building technical advice +
- Financial advice +

← Sustainability criteria



2. Sustainability criteria

2003 = criteria for ecological building

2010 = VIPA sustainability criteria

2021 = VIPA sustainability criteria

With care-specific topics and specifications

2026 = VIPA sustainability criteria



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THE WELL BUILDING STANDARD™
SEVEN CONCEPTS FOR HEALTHIER BUILDINGS





I. BASIC PRINCIPLES

Basic principles to achieve sustainability in a project

- Conceptual thinking
- Process
- Climate Responsive Design

II. SITE

Criteria for the (choice of a) **site**: mobility, air quality, flood risk, Urban Heat Island effect, ...

III. BUILDING

Criteria for the **building** and its immediate surroundings

- Healthy, comfortable and inviting
- Minimal environmental impact
- Future-proof and adaptable
- Towards Net Zero Energy Building



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