

City Liège	
Country	Belgium
Population	197,355
Title of policy or practice	Appel à projets CREaFARM (CREaFARM call for projects)
Subtitle (optional)	Development of urban agriculture on the territory of the City of Liège
URL video	https://www.rtc.be/les_petits_producteurs_laureats_de_creafarm-1499782-999-325.html ; https://alimentation-locale.liege.be/creafarm
Category	Food Production
SDGs	SDGs: 3, 12.
Brief description	<p>The CREaFARM call for projects is an initiative of the Trade Office of the City of Liège in partnership with Ceinture Aliment-Terre Liégeoise [Food-Land Belt of City of Liège].</p> <p>It responds to different objectives at municipal, multi-municipal and international level by being part of the #Réinventons Liège - vers une ville intelligente: à la fois inclusive, innovante et résiliente [Let's reinvent Liège- towards a smart city that is at once inclusive, innovative and resilient] project, part of the Schéma de développement territorial pluricommunal sur l'arrondissement de Liège [Multi-municipal territorial development plan for Liège district] and the Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energie.</p> <p>The definition of urban agriculture derives from the nature of the locations made available to the call for projects, which are undeveloped land located on the municipal territory of Liège.</p> <p>In this context, urban agriculture mainly encompasses the activity of market gardening, i.e. the cultivation of vegetables, fruit, herbs and flowers for food use, in a professional manner, i.e. for the purpose of making a profit or simply to make a living from it.</p> <p>Urban agriculture also includes small livestock farming such as hens, rabbits, turkeys, to name some, with the exception of any larger animal. This activity can be complementary to market gardening on an urban farm, for instance.</p> <p>Urban agriculture uses production technology tailored to the urban context, respecting soil health and the environment. The concepts of agroecology and permaculture are often applied to it. By providing municipal land, the CREaFARM call for projects aims to encourage the development of urban agriculture projects in Liège, to promote access to land and stimulate job creation, to meet the growing consumer demand for quality local product and to encourage short supply chains in order to strengthen the local food economy.</p>
Date of start and state (ongoing/completed)	April 2018 Ongoing
Actors and stakeholders involvement	<p>Within the City:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Régie foncière [Land governance]; • Service du développement économique et commercial - Pôle agriculture urbaine [Economic and Commercial Development Department - Urban Agriculture Pole]; • Service Urbanisme et Cartographie [Urban Planning and Mapping Department]; • Cellule WEB [WEB Cell]; • Service Environnement [Environment Department] ; • Cellule stratégique [Strategic Cell] ;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service des Foires et Marchés [Fair and Market Department]; • Ceinture Aliment Terre Liégeoise [Food-Land Belt of Liège]; • Les Petits Producteurs cooperative • Market gardeners promoting projects.
Approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 16, 2018: Launch of the call for projects and opening of the website www.alimentation-locale.liege.be, online publication of all documentation related to the call for projects; • From April 16 to July 8, 2018: Elaboration of application files and field inspections; • September: Meeting of the jury and oral presentation of the projects by the candidates; • September–October: Nomination of the winners by the Local Government and projects' implementation.
Innovation	<p>It is an affirmed political will, enshrined in the Declaration of Municipal Policy. The City of Liege recommends a relocation of food production and is determined to adopt a collaborative approach with associative and/or private partners.</p> <p>This comprehensive strategy also includes a network of green spaces to restore nature in the city. This network should also make it possible, in a perspective of health preservation, to put citizens in contact with the different forms of urban agriculture in order to involve the whole population in this holistic approach. A general policy that promotes a comeback to nature, health and a solidarity-based and sustainable economy.</p>
Impact	<p>Regional agriculture is experiencing a significant downsizing of its workforce, and its revitalization requires the development of local agriculture, which generates local employment, social cohesion and positive environmental externalities such as the restoration of biodiversity, soil and groundwater quality. The obstacles to the installation of these project leaders, who are generally not from the agricultural sector, have been identified in terms of access to land, investment and a decent income. The CREaFARM project (free provision of communal land for a period of 20 years) addresses the first of these problems. The collaboration with a community cooperative of organic and local food stores, SCRLFS Les Petits Producteurs (Société Coopérative à Responsabilité Limitée à Finalité Sociale) [Cooperative organization with responsibility limited to social purposes], made it possible to make progress on the other two obstacles. Thanks to the capital risen from citizens, this cooperative has financed the installation of market gardeners who will settle on the land of the City of Liège as part of the CREaFARM project. In addition, the Coopérative Les Petits Producteurs will offer these independent producers a part-time sales job in its stores, which will improve their income level, but also spread it out in view of the unstable and seasonal nature of the market gardening activity.</p>
Inclusion	<p>We have here an emblematic example of a partnership between a local public authority, a private cooperative enterprise and a citizen movement that has resulted in the creation of sustainable jobs and the improvement of the quality of life, the environment and the population's health (through nutrition).</p>
Adversity coefficient	<p>The sustainable city model requires efficient land use and the discouragement of urban expansion. It focuses on domestic development, which means the restoration of deteriorated land, the use, recycling and conversion of land. Such approach implies physical, social and economic regeneration.</p>