

City Liège	
Country	Belgium
Population	197,355
Title of policy or practice	Table alimentaire liégeoise (Food chart Liégeoise)
Subtitle (optional)	Support for the creation of a recovery platform for unsold items to improve the quality of food parcels.
URL video	
Category	Food Supply and Distribution
SDGs	SDGs: 1, 2, 3.
Brief description	<p>The <i>Table Alimentaire</i> is a working group and a consultative arrangement between associations operating in the field of food aid throughout the area of the City of Liège and the municipal authorities in this field (the <i>Echevinat</i> [Alderman] and the CPAS (Public Social Action Centre)). It is coordinated by the <i>Département des Services Sociaux et de la Proximité</i> [Department of Social Services and Proximity] of the City of Liège and the competent <i>Echevinat</i> who provide logistical support: a coordinator, facilities and an e-mail address.</p> <p>The <i>Table alimentaire</i> has started the creation of a non-profit organization <i>Le Panier solidaire</i> to facilitate the collection, transport and redistribution of unsold food to food aid associations in the City of Liège.</p> <p>The objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recovering more unsold food from stores and mainly fresh produce to improve the diversity and quality of products in food packages. • Reducing logistics and transport costs by working together. • Developing an aid approach more in line with the real needs of food aid beneficiaries. • Promoting the participation of food aid beneficiaries in the project. • Facilitating the exchange of experiences between associations • Processing fresh products before redistributing them (soups, jams, etc.). <p>The driving forces behind this project are the associations that have been formed as non-profit organizations with the support of the City of Liège.</p>
Date of start and state (ongoing/completed)	01/2017 Ongoing
Actors and stakeholders involvement	<p>The non-profit association <i>Le Panier solidaire</i> is composed of 14 member associations of the <i>Table Alimentaire Liégeoise</i>, which are supported by the Department of Social Services and Proximity of the City of Liège.</p> <p>The non-profit association <i>Le Panier solidaire</i> collaborates with a training-through-work company, the non-profit association <i>JEFAR</i>, which is responsible for collecting, storing and redistributing food to member associations according to the number of beneficiaries and the day of distribution of food parcels.</p>
Approach	The City of Liège supported local associations in the creation and development of a logistics platform for the recovery of unsold food, mainly fresh produce.

	<p>Agreement with one of the project operators - the non-profit organization <i>JEFAR</i>, which provides a project coordinator who manages daily logistics and facilities.</p> <p>The City of Liege has financed the operation through an annual subsidy and providing two agents and a refrigerated van.</p>
Innovation	<p>Food parcels for people below the poverty threshold mainly consist of dry products. The <i>Table alimentaire liégeoise</i> wanted to introduce fresh produce by improving the collection of unsold food in the stores.</p> <p>The non-profit organization <i>Le Panier solidaire</i> was created by member associations of the <i>Table Alimentaire Liégeoise</i> to facilitate the collection, transport and redistribution of unsold goods to food aid associations in the City of Liège. It is a creative food aid project that responds to local needs. But it is also a real innovation in terms of organization and internal administration, based on the principles of cooperation and trust between the actors involved: social workers, volunteers and beneficiaries. Thus, the participation of volunteers and food aid beneficiaries is at the heart of the project. The governing bodies of the association must reflect this position.</p> <p>In particular, its board of directors, which is composed, among others, of a member representing social workers, a volunteer from a food aid organization and two users. This system is supported by consultation systems to ensure that the expectations and needs of each group (workers, volunteers, users) are properly taken into account.</p>
Impact	<p>The creation and development of the logistics platform for the recovery and redistribution of unsold food managed by the non-profit organizations <i>Le Panier Solidaire</i> and <i>Jefar</i>, which are project operators supported by the City of Liège, have improved the quality of the products offered in the food aid packages and distributed by the associations in the various districts of the City.</p> <p>33,855.257 kg of unsold goods were collected and redistributed in 2018.</p> <p>Beneficiaries of food aid packages: 1,716 Adults and 664 children (-12 years old). Figures based on two weeks of standard distribution in April 2017.</p>
Inclusion	<p>The City of Liège has developed a collaboration with the associations involved in distributing food aid in Liège with the goal of reducing the environmental impact caused by the individual visits of each association to partner stores, increasing the amount of fresh food in packages and ensuring a fair supply of unsold food to the associations. Recovery no longer depends on their own resources, but on the logistics platform developed by the joint forces of the stakeholders (the associations and the City of Liège).</p>
Adversity coefficient	<p>Understand that collaborating means cutting transport, energy and personnel costs and that this solidarity increases the average of unsold goods recovery <i>panier</i> (basket) for each association. It has been challenging to change attitudes and to get each actor to collaborate and pool their resources.</p> <p>The creation of an umbrella non-profit organization bringing together the various associations distributing parcels has made it possible to contribute to a common goal. At the same time it has generated many administrative difficulties in developing legal statutes that allow the participation and contribution of each actor of the association (beneficiary, volunteer, social worker).</p>