

No Regrets: A Belgian Youth Perspective

“No Regrets – Pre-Acting and Adapting to Climate Change in Cities”

Brussels // 10.02.2014

Robbert Casier, Climate Youth Representative

Anneke Cattebeke, Flemish Youth Council



“Twinkle”: YOUNGO



- Does your city / region has a youth council?

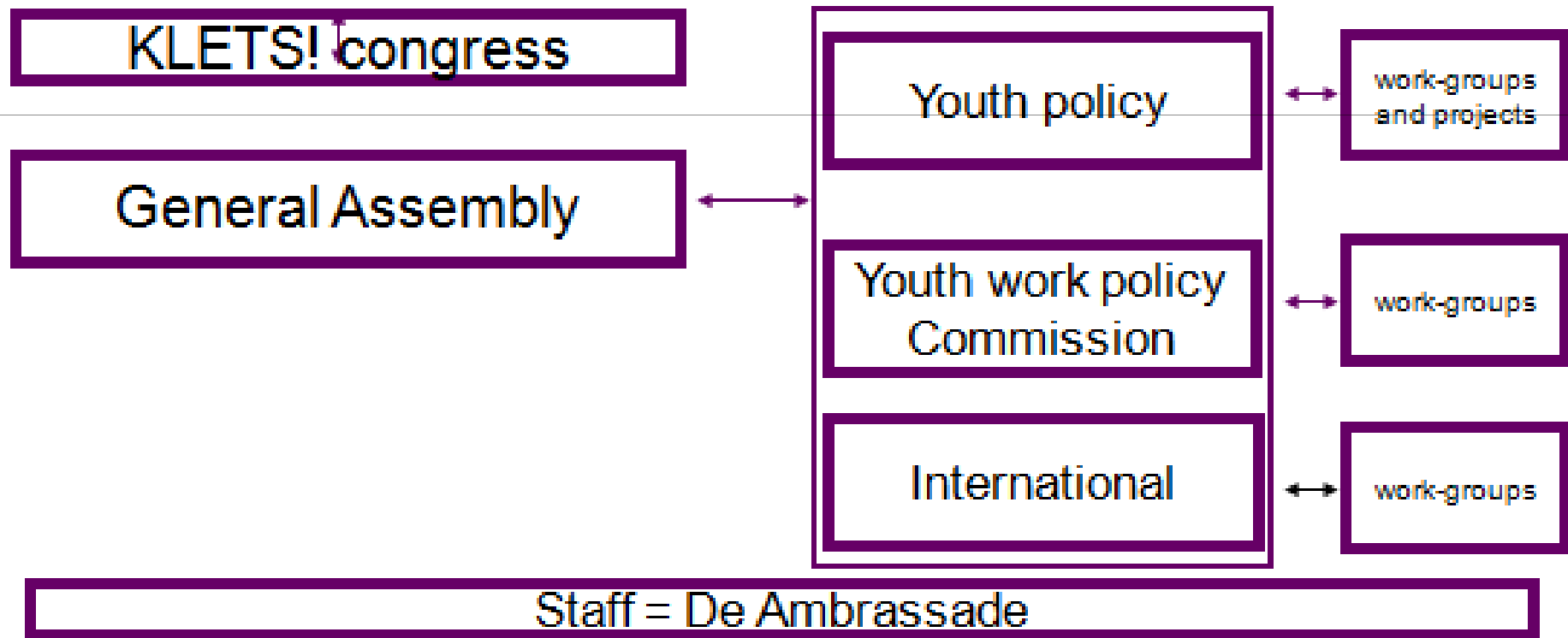
- Who has ever consulted youth for a local climate plan?

- Who has ever been consulted by youth for a local climate plan?

Vlaamse Jeugdraad (Flemish Youth Council)

- = The official advisory body of the Flemish Government on all matters concerning children and young people
- The Flemish ministers are required to consult the Flemish Youth Council on any decisions they make affecting children and/or young people
- The Flemish Youth Council may also offer advice on its own initiative

Vlaamse Jeugdraad (Flemish Youth Council)



Youth Representatives

- Two-year voluntary mandate
- Climate, Sustainable Development and UN-Youth
- **Inform // Ask // Represent**
- 6 Belgian Youth Representatives
- Collaboration with Conseil de la Jeunesse
- www.belgianunyouthdelegates.com
- www.vlaamsejeugdraad.be

Youth Representatives: What do we do?



Youth Representatives: What do we do?

Acknowledged as an important stakeholder



Youth Representatives: What do we do?



IS THIS HOW WE ARE GOING TO PREVENT CLIMATE CHANGE?

Join the debate and speed date with experts!

Friday 18th October
18.30 – 21.30
18, Rue du commerce, 1000 Brussels

Openingsspeech by **Connie Hedegaard**,
EU Commissioner Climate Change

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Pauline, Jeune Déléguée Climat
Robbert, Jongeren-
vertegenwoordiger Klimaat



Youth Representatives: What do we do?



Youth Initiatives: Brussels

- Brussels: youngest region and city in Belgium
- Brussels Youth Parliament: Brussels Sustainable City
 - Vzw GoodPlanet
 - 70 students draw their 'plan' for Brussels and present it to politicians

Youth Initiatives: Brussels

Parlement des Jeunes Bruxellois pour l'Environnement | Brussels Jongerenparlement voor het Leefmilieu



Youth Initiatives: Brussels

- More green spaces: No Regrets
 - biodiversity, healthcare, looks nice.
- Sustainable buildings: No Regrets
 - Ecology + social tissue
 - Isolation
- Locally grown food: No Regrets
- Water: No Regrets
 - Fountains, transport, rain

Youth Initiatives: Brussels

- Being heard \neq Influence the outcome
- No Regrets: participatory approach. Youth should have a structurally incorporated voice.
- No Regrets: jobs for young people.
- Cities – poverty

Youth Initiatives: UGent1010

- Students for a sustainable future
- Bottom-up initiative
- Two main goals:
 - Sensibilization students
 - Reducing impact Ghent University



Youth Initiatives: UGent1010



Youth Initiatives: UGent1010

Sustainable travel



WORD JIJ EEN SUPERLIFTER?



UNIVERSITEIT GENT

- 👍 Liftwedstrijd naar Parijs
- 👍 22-24 maart
- 👍 Schrijf je team in voor 17 maart!

PARIS

Meer info op:
WWW.UGENT1010.BE/LIFTWEDSTRIJD

Youth Initiatives: UGent1010

- Sustainable Development Pact
- Vegetable bags



DURF SAMEN VERANDEREN

DUURZAAMHEIDSPACT

GROENTEPAKKETTEN



UGENT

Youth Initiatives: UGent1010

- Urban mining
 - Recycle cellphones
 - Local recycling instead of dumping in South



Youth Initiatives: UGent1010

StuJardin: no-regrets (life quality, local jobs)



Conclusions

- Cities can and should play an important role. **No Regrets.**
- Young people's future is at stake. Young people have plenty of ideas. Young people have to be involved in policy making: not only consulted but a youth voice should be structurally incorporated. And why not also within metropolis? **You won't regret it.**