

# FOOD AID & SOCIAL POLICY IN EUROPE – THE TENSION BETWEEN « COLD » AND « WARM » SOLIDARITY

**Antwerp – 12/09/2019**

POD MAATSCHAPPELIJKE INTEGRATIE  
BETER SAMEN LEVEN  
SPP INTÉGRATION SOCIALE  
MIEUX VIVRE ENSEMBLE



**“Charitable food aid is a sticking plaster on a gaping wound of systemic inequality in our societies.”**

Olivier De Schutter - former UN special rapporteur on the right to food



?



# FPS Social Integration

“We want to contribute to the achievement of fundamental social rights”

- Right to social integration
- Poverty reduction plan

=> Improve access to rights

=> Foster equal treatment

=> Support the European Minimum Income Network



# What is the origin of the FEAD?

- 1987: creation of the PEAD
- 2013: PEAD replaced by the FEAD
- Agricultural policy >< social affairs
- A new actor: FPS Social Integration



# How does it work?

- Annual calls to market
- Foodstuffs provided to the Public Centres for Social Welfare (PCSW) - 358 and approved Partner Organisations (PO) - 419
- Social component is developed => integrated social policy



# MATERIAL DEPRIVATION

Food deprivation:

5.2% cannot afford a meal with meat, chicken, fish at least every second day



# What is the profile of the FEAD beneficiaries?

- Single parents 44%
- Without means 13%
- Homeless 4%
- Precarious workers 12%



Anyone living below the poverty line can benefit from food aid



# What are the FEAD's figures in Belgium?

- 13 million euros/year
- Over 8,000 tonnes of products per year
- Over 300,000 beneficiaries
- 50% of what the foodbanks receive
- PO == relays for working harder towards inclusion.
- Support measures





# What is the FEAD's impact on health and food quality?

- Objective: offer a balanced and diverse food parcel but also attractive packaging
- Sustainable Development policy
- Avoid food waste
- Avoid stigmatisation
- Respect for cultural diversity
- Sustainable aspects taken into account



# What is the social dimension of our action?

- FEAD and warm solidarity
- Agreement with the Public Centres for Social Welfare: cornerstone
- Volunteers: without them, all of this would not be possible!



# Some Examples

- SOREAL



- ALIMEN'T and ODC Antwerp



- Fresh soup made with unsold products



# Food waste?

88 million tonnes thrown away every year!

1 euro invested = 14 euros of products

National lottery: 1,600,000 euros  
=> 88 projects assisted





- ESF+
- Important budgetary challenges
- Minimum: 2% = 48 million euros
- Only decent proposal: 4%
- OP Budget 2014-2020 = 88 million euros
- Assessment of the current programming
- Federal management has several benefits



Charitable food aid is a sticking plaster  
on a gaping wound of systemic  
inequality in our societies ?

