

Food solidarity, a step towards inclusion
Selected projects

1. Brussels

The Belgian Red Cross – A public utility establishment - Brussels

A warm welcome

Our aim is to improve the service in our two social grocery stores (in Florennes and Philippeville). Shopping offers a really important moment to create bonds, especially after Covid. People need to chat to each other around a nice cup of coffee or a slice of cake. It provides a good opportunity to talk about existing services and support for people in difficulty. We opened our reception areas from September 2022.

Amount provided: €2,240

Contact person: Liliane Lannoy, episoc.charlemagne@gmail.com

Les Capucines – Brussels

La Tof Cuisine!

La Tof Cuisine (the Super Kitchen) is a place for exchanges and building relationships around delicious dishes. It's where you can meet up with your neighbours and cook in a really friendly atmosphere.

Amount provided: €7,500

Contact person: Emilie Many, emilie.many@capucines.be

Pigment Vzw – Brussels

Upcycling Oppemstraat

This project provides food distribution for families without legal residence through participation of the target group, diversification of donors and sustainability. Through shared cargo bikes, members can work autonomously. Until now, this could not be done as transport is done by car and members' status means they cannot have a Belgian driving licence. This makes people dependent on others who are outside the target group, precluding complete self-organization.

Amount awarded: €7,500

Contact: Deroost Thijs, thijs@pigmentvzw.be

Diabetes Health Network – Brussels

Health and a well-balanced diet at the heart of concerns in the food aid sector – Training for those working and volunteering in the food aid sector.

The project involves the provision of themed training and information mornings about key food-related health problems (chronic illnesses), subjects such as a well-balanced diet and ways of improving food parcels and dishes in social restaurants, as well as the products sold in social groceries. It is an opportunity to think about the place of food in a sector where the priority is often only 'to eat' rather than 'to eat well'.

Amount provided: €7,500

Contact person: Thomas Deschepper, thomas@reseaudiabete.be

Samaritans Committee – Brussels

Sam'en Vrac

Our aim is to install a grocery store, selling loose food products alongside the weekly food distribution, as part of the Samaritans Committee Social Restaurant and in collaboration with the ASBL VRAC (Vers un Réseau d'Achat en Commun – Towards a shared purchasing network). The grocery store will enable local residents of the Marolles neighbourhood, as well as Samaritan beneficiaries, to have access to good quality foods, produced by local sustainable agriculture as much as possible.

Amount provided: €7,500

Contact person: Baudouin Blanckaert, colis.samaritaine@gmail.com

The Salvation Army ASBL – Brussels

Caring for our backs

Several of our volunteers have already suffered back problems as a result of lifting loads to be transported or received, or while preparing parcels. Volunteers have also had problems carrying parcels on foot or transporting them because of their weight. Some have even refused goods because of the difficulty of taking them home.

Our project involves: for volunteers, training on how to handle goods and the re-organisation of our premises, and for beneficiaries, a group purchase of shopping trollies.

Amount provided: €7,500

Contact person: Lénaïc Estiévenart, lestievenart@armedusalut.be

Globe Aroma vzw – Brussels

Open keuken - Cuisine ouverte - Open kitchen

Open kitchen: 25 weeks, 25 recipes. Globe Aroma's open kitchen hosts various organizations who work with newcomers (Terra Nova, Minor Ndako, Fedasil, etc). Each time, someone suggests a recipe and takes the lead in cooking together. During group cooking the working language is Dutch, so this is also a chance to practice the language. A book and a YouTube channel will feature all the recipes.

Amount awarded: €7,500

Contact: Vandermeulen An, an@globearoma.be

La maison des gourmands – Laeken (Brussels)

More than a meal, a restau

La Maison des Gourmands is a restaurant that was opened as an association, which (as stated in point 5, Article 3 of its statutes) uses all of the profits generated by the restaurant to provide more than a meal to people in need of more than just a restaurant.

Amount provided: €7,500

Contact person: Cécilia Ntelo, ntelo.cecilia@gmail.com

Parckfarm T&T asbl – Brussels, Laeken

Solidarity through food baskets

Food distribution from Parckfarm T&T, working with local residents, for local residents.

Amount awarded: €7,500

Contact: Verwilghen Marianne, marianne@parckfarm.be

The Community Kitchen @ HTB Asbl – Ixelles (Brussels)

Integration of refugees in our community

The Community Kitchen @ HTB Asbl is responsible for the preparation and distribution of meals to vulnerable members of our community in Brussels (including refugees and asylum seekers). We currently prepare some 2,500 meals each week. We have launched a project designed to include refugees in our organization.

Amount provided: €7,500

Contact person: Gail Russell, community.kitchen@holyltrinity.be

Fair.e – Saint-Gilles (Brussels)

Bouche à Oreille

Bouche-à-Oreille (By Word of Mouth) is a group of volunteers whose aim is to fight for food solidarity and against waste in Brussels. We recuperate and transform unsold food, transforming it into meals that are distributed free of charge to those who are socially and financially vulnerable, in partnership with other charitable associations specialized in providing support. BAO is an integral part of the Fair.e association and coordinates the association's food center.

Amount provided: €7,500

Contact person: Kim-Minh Pham, kim@bao.brussels

Epi St.Gilles – Saint-Gilles (Brussels)

Encouraging the involvement of beneficiaries and access to sustainable and affordable products

Epi St.Gilles is developing more towards cooperation and sustainability. This means re-visiting the relationship we have with beneficiaries so that they can become members, appropriate the grocery every day and participate in defining the services provided. This involves taking a new look at the products offered and favouring the sale of healthy, loose - and therefore cheaper – products, rather than those from the agro-industrial system. This all requires solid leadership.

Amount provided: €7,500

Contact person: Fabien Mathieu, fmat@cpasstgilles.brussels

L'Ilot ASBL – Saint-Gilles (Brussels)

Helping the homeless towards healthy food autonomy

Organisation of cookery workshops for the social workers in various services of the Ilot area. The workshops aim on the one hand to improve the use made of food collected in the area and, on the other hand, to equip social workers themselves to pass on food-related tips, tricks and knowledge to homeless people who are about to move into accommodation.

Amount provided: €7,500

Contact person: Barbara Bussi, b.bussi@ilot.be

CAP Brabantia - Cureghem Social Service – Anderlecht (Brussels)

Renovation of our food bank and the start of our big Christmas distribution

Our service has a project to renovate the premises of our aging local food bank to make the work of our volunteers more ergonomic and optimize use of the storage space, so as to boost our food offer, as well as meeting the needs of our public. We also hope to be able to purchase and supply additional foods, hygiene material and kits for babies to our families during the Christmas food distribution.

Amount provided: €7,500

Contact person: Marine Docquier, m.docquier@capbrabantiacaw.be

D'Broej vzw – Chicago sub-group – Sint-Jans-Molenbeek

Chicago solidarity

A group of committed young people from the Chicago youth centre launched a food distribution project during the Covid-19 pandemic. The project allows young people to grow by putting them in charge and training them as volunteers. Three times a week, young people make and deliver meals by bicycle to homeless people in Brussels. This is done in collaboration with partners.

Amount awarded: €7,500

Contact: Dubois Kim, kim.dubois@dbroej.be

Belgische federatie van Voedselbanken vzw - Fédération belge des Banques Alimentaires asbl – Sint-Agatha-Berchem

Promoting choice for users of food distribution organisations

A study by UAntwerp and HoGent on food aid users' freedom of choice provided useful insights, practical information and case studies. The aim of the submitted project is to maximise the dissemination of this information to local food aid organisations through a brochure, study day and learning networks. This encourages them to offer more choice to their clients and develop a more customer-friendly approach to food distribution.

Amount awarded: €7,500

Contact: Rubens Etienne, etienne.rubens@foodbanks.be

Mutual aid Sainte-Cecile – Ganshoren

Improvements by highlighting the work of beneficiaries who volunteer

Thanks to 30 rather elderly volunteers, we gather and distribute food to 200 beneficiaries of all ages, who often have additional problems (health, language). Our beneficiaries also act as volunteers (storing things, tickets, translation etc). We would like to highlight this volunteering, together with support (from the Autour de Soi association, CPAS etc.) by:

- further training
- improving procedures: sliced bread, ground coffee, energy etc.
- giving volunteers a certificate for the services they have provided

Amount provided: €7,000

Contact person: Gilles Labeeuw, gilles.labeeuw@skynet.be

Maison Croix-Rouge Condroz Haute Meuse – Condroz

Improving the reception of beneficiaries at our social grocery.

The addition of a friendly, well-equipped annex to our social grocery will enable us to develop inclusion projects together with our partners (CPAS, Saint Vincent de Paul).

Amount provided: €7,000

Contact person: Alain Alexandre, contact@alxconsult.be

Belgian Red Cross – Ottignies

Improvement of our food aid service (reception and organisation) and increasing beneficiaries' purchasing power at the 2 Maison Croix-Rouge social groceries in Ottignies.

The project aims to increase the quality of the reception and service offered to vulnerable people requesting food aid at the 2 Red Cross groceries of Louvain-la-Neuve and Court-St- Etienne. This

will be made possible thanks to the development of a reception area and the purchase of additional equipment to facilitate the storage and distribution of free fresh foods. The purchase of goods will contribute to the provision of emergency food parcels and special end-of-year parcels.

Amount provided: €7,500

Contact person: Isabelle Convié, isabelle.convie@croix-rouge.be

Belgian Red Cross – Uccle (Brussels)

Early childhood support

As part of an initiative aimed at strengthening support for very young children and their mothers, we wish to make available two heated rooms equipped for breast feeding, bathing and preparation of babies' bottles and products (powdered milk, water, small pots, vegetables, hygiene products etc.), under the supervision of a trained person, who will be able to listen to and offer (certain) advice to the mothers.

Amount provided: €7,500

Contact person: Marc Depiereux, marc.depiereux@volontaires.croix-rouge.be

NOJAVEL! Asbl – Forest (Brussels)

Support for the NOJAVEL! solidarity grocery and food bank

Our project involves the collection and free redistribution of quality organic foodstuffs to vulnerable people. In 2021, we redistributed 250 tonnes of foods, we helped as many as 1,000 households per month through our solidarity grocery store and we enabled around twenty organisations to recuperate food from our food bank to provide support for their own vulnerable beneficiaries.

Amount provided: €7,500

Contact person: Alice Berwart, alice.berwart@nojavel.org

Resto du Coeur de Wavre asbl – Wavre-Bierges

Creation of a solidarity grocery

There is currently no social grocery in Wavre, so our project will be very useful. The local CPAS and the local council are ready to support us and help us to find premises because there is a real need. We plan to begin slowly (opening 1 day per week) and extend and improve our service in function of the feedback from our 'clients'. We will function entirely with volunteers and our startup needs are essentially material in nature. The purchase of foods will be via the Resto du Coeur and Solifood (Red Cross).

Amount provided: €7,500

Contact person: Guy Peeters, alice.berwart@nojavel.org

Social grocery Le P'tit Maga– Braine-l'Alleud

The P'tit Maga in Braine l'Alleud provides support for the vulnerable

The P'tit Maga is a social grocery that provides free or low-price (+/- 50% less) food and hygiene products for inhabitants of Braine l'Alleud who have financial or other difficulties. The store is also a welcoming meeting place where exchanges of information and a moment of relaxation can be enjoyed. Our project is to continue to provide this service for as long as it is necessary.

Amount provided: €7,500

Contact person: Edith Matagne, ma345748@skynet.be

2. Antwerpen

vzw Sociaal Winkelpunt – Antwerp

The social shop, a strong network of social grocers where shopping is also about meeting.

In the social grocery store, people in poverty can buy food, hygiene and household products at low cost after referral by a social service agency. Customers choose and pay for what they need. In the meeting space, new social networks are created and people are directed towards associations. There is also a focus on social employment and alleviating poverty. Sociaal Winkelpunt supports a network of eight stores in Antwerp province.

Amount awarded: €7,500

Contact: Evrard Catherine, catherine.evrard@sociaalwinkelpunt.be

EVA-centrum vzw – Antwerp – Ekeren

Recruiting and supporting volunteers

The aim of this initiative is to optimise volunteering within the centre's operations by:

- recruiting new volunteers for food point and support tasks;
- motivating clients to participate, take on partial responsibilities and volunteer;
- strengthening and coaching target group volunteers;
- organising information and training sessions;
- administrative support;
- representing and consulting with external organisations, schools, local councils, etc.

Amount awarded: €7,500

Contact: Van Looy Frieda, frie.vanlooy@gmail.com

T'ANtWOORD vzw– Turnhout

Volunteering: an indispensable link in strong social work!

More and more people are facing financial difficulties and have to seek affordable alternatives to safeguard their access to healthy food. The work of this mobile neighbourhood restaurant grows each year. Volunteers are invaluable to the project. Without their enthusiastic commitment, the

organisation could not achieve its goals. The project invests in the development and strengthening of a quality volunteer policy that goes hand in hand with the organisation's growth.

Amount awarded: €7,500

Contact: Dielis Chris, chris.dielis@tantwoord.be

Schakel Retie vzw – Retie

Schakel Retie offers refrigerated transport and a warm welcome. Efficient transport of food products in a refrigerated trailer and a warm welcome for clients, with regular presence of CPAS staff

Schakel Retie aims to develop its weekly food distribution into a weekly meeting between clients and volunteers, and increase the social impact by offering clients easy access to social workers from the CPAS. Furthermore, it wants to improve the supply and quality of the food on offer by buying a refrigerated trailer. This would also benefit the efficiency of volunteer operations.

Amount awarded: €7,500

Contact: De Wit Paul, schakelretie@gmail.com

3. Vlaams-Brabant

Voedselwinning Jeugdhulp vzw – Leuven

Voedselwinning Jeugdhulp

Leuven youth support partners set up a pragmatic “bottom-up” project to prevent food waste, with a focus on “social engagement through surplus food”. Matching supply and demand can be difficult and there is much that can be optimised and professionalised. The secondary objective is to raise awareness about food loss and sustainable food use in general among clients.

Amount awarded: €7,500

Contact: Dupon Laurent, laurent.dupon@gmail.com

de RuimteVaart vzw – Leuven

AAN TAFEL! Tables bring people together to work, to eat, and to meet new volunteers and follow training

AAN TAFEL! provides new tables in a social restaurant. These tables are stepping stones to opportunities to cook, eat, meet people and take part in training. In practice, AAN TAFEL! finances:

- new tables and limited new kitchen equipment;
- guidance time to bring volunteers together – away from the oven – for teambuilding and training, including digital empowerment (use of digital cash register), and to embed the volunteering policy.

Amount awarded: €7,500

Contact: Boelaert Freya, freya.deruimtevaart@gmail.com

Sociale kruidenier Vlaams-Brabant cvba-so – Leuven - Kessel-Lo

Mobile grocer: healthy food and basic supplies for all

With the mobile grocer, who stops off twice a week for three hours at a time in a disadvantaged Leuven neighbourhood, the organisation is developing concrete solutions:

- free and very cheap healthy food and basic supplies;
- linked to the operation of poverty associations, CPAS, community centres, etc;
- accessible for people with reduced mobility: staff drive around and stop in neighbourhoods;
- linked to meeting, explaining people's rights and signposting assistance.

Amount awarded: €7,500

Contact: Saenen Kirsten, kirsten.saenen@saamo.be

Bezorgd om Mensen VZW – Tienen

Cool food on the move

As a food bank, the organisation regularly collects fresh meat, vegetables, fruit and dairy products from supermarkets, butchers and fruit and vegetable wholesalers. To guarantee the cold chain from the point of collection to the cold stores and freezers at its locations, it wishes to buy a refrigerated truck. This will enable it to guarantee the safety of its products even better.

Amount awarded: €7,500

Contact: Bultynck Katrien, Bultynckkatrien@gmail.com

4. Limburg

vzw Warm Hart – Houthalen-Helchteren

The non-profit Warm Hart organises a warm welcome, meeting opportunities and an improved food range at the social grocery. By offering a listening ear and support, it encourages the self-reliance of its target group.

Warm Hart organises a weekly social grocery with food distribution for an average of 50 families. Through this project, it aims to improve the supply of food with a wider and adjusted range of fruit and vegetables. At the same time, it wants to offer a warm welcome and a listening ear, with a view to promoting people's self-reliance. It also organises get-togethers with coffee, supported by trained volunteers.

Amount awarded: €7,500

Contact: Lamers Lore, warmhart@skynet.be

Vincentius Genk-Zutendaal – Genk

Dependent person becomes self-sufficient client with a voice

The Vincentius association Genk-Zutendaal is improving the quality and efficiency of its food distribution and is evolving into a social grocer. The distribution of fresh fruit and vegetables is already done in the format of a shop. The association increases the number of products offered in consultation with the customer, who can now make purchases several times a month within a predetermined budget. This increases clients' wellbeing and self-sufficiency and teaches them to manage a budget.

Amount awarded: €7,500

Contact: Janssen Michel, janssen-jacobs@skynet.be

Zahra El Mohajira – Genk

Together Against Poverty “3600 Noord”

Together Against Poverty provides food parcels to people in need of money, especially refugees, people in debt or those who suddenly lose their job. Particularly during the pandemic and now because of the energy crisis, these people are especially vulnerable. Families are admitted by, among others, the Refugee Committee or neighbours with an understanding of the situation. The project provides support to people who cannot always access structural aid.

Amount awarded: €7,500

Contact: Moussayer Wafa, moussayer.wafa@icloud.com

Sint Vincentius Maaseik-Kinrooi, Conferentie Harlindis en Relindis – Maaseik

We're going for it together! Widening support base is a must

The organisation's focus has so far been on creating meeting opportunities for customers and enabling fun shopping. Now there is an added focus: the involvement of the local community and local organisations. Their engagement is crucial to mitigate the growing poverty problem, to grasp its broader context and to include all areas of human and children's rights in theory and in practice.

Amount awarded: €7,500

Contact: Palmaers Els, els.palmaers@gmail.com

5. Liège

ASBL Amon Nos Hôtes – Liege

Developing active participation among volunteer users

Our association is developing a reintegration project through the active participation of beneficiaries who become volunteers. Every user of the cafeteria can get involved in the café's functioning and be welcomed by his/her peers. The support requested will enable us to:

- implement training sessions designed to improve participants' knowledge about the norms for hygiene and food safety, as well as the quality of service;
- finance the material needed for quality reception.

Amount provided: €7,500

Contact person: Frédéric Svendsen, frederic.svendsen@sans-logis.be

Rotes Kreuz Sektion St. Vith - Burg Reuland – Saint-Vith

Ankauf eines Gefrierregals mit 2 durchsichtigen Türen, um eine ausgewogene und gesunde Ernährung für alle zu gewährleisten

Um eine gesunde und ausgewogene Ernährung zu gewährleisten, werden mit Spendenmitteln frisches Obst, Gemüse und Fleisch/Fisch wöchentlich hinzugekauft.

Nach Vorgaben der AFSCA darf die Kühlkette nicht unterbrochen werden und die Lebensmittel müssen fachgerecht gelagert und präsentiert werden.

Daher möchten wir ein Gefrierregal mit 2 durchsichtigen Türen anschaffen, damit unsere Kunden am Verteilungstag die Lebensmittel auswählen können und somit allen Anforderungen der AFSCA gerecht zu werden.

Amount provided: €7,500

Contact person: Marie-Hélène Düsseldorf, sanktvith@roteskreuz.be

ASBL Saint-Vincent de Paul - Entraide de Verviers-Centre – Verviers - Ensival

Re-development and improvement of the quality of reception and distribution of food aid at the mutual aid centre of Verviers-Centre

The mutual aid centre of Verviers Centre serves over 200 vulnerable families in part of the Verviers area. The centre was damaged during the floods of July 2021 but will occupy new premises as soon as these are ready. The association is regularly short of foods due to increased requests for help from the greater numbers of people in social and financial difficulty. However, the centre has recently been able to welcome new volunteers.

Amount provided: €7,500

Contact person: Anne Delsupexhe, annedelsupexhe@yahoo.com

Verviers Urban Social Team (RSUV) – Verviers - Stembert

Let's improve our food baskets

Since 2019, and based on significant food aid experience in the field, the RSUV has been developing a solidarity grocery project as an alternative to food parcels. This development has led us to complement the service by the creation of a vegetable garden, which is managed by the beneficiaries themselves (under the supervision of volunteers and/or professionals from the RSUV), so as to involve them in the preparation of food parcels and add quality products.

Amount provided: €7,500

Contact person: Anne Delvenne, relais.social.verviers@skynet.be

ASBL Vincent de Paul "Frédéric Ozanam" – Pepinster

0 waste, 100% taste!

We would like to offer to our volunteers and beneficiaries various types of training to enable them to learn how to manage their waste, but also to discover new ways of eating and become aware of the cost of non-recycling etc. To do this, we should like to have the help of Intradel for some of the training sessions. Alongside the training, we hope to provide healthier products such as fruit and vegetables in our food parcels, items that are unfortunately rather rare in the food products donated to us by our partners.

Amount provided: €1,710

Contact person: Océane Drooghaag, oceane.drooghaag@gmail.com

6. Namur

VIVReS ASBL – Namur - Bouge

Economic, ecological, sanitizing and rapid cleaning for our collection bins

Our organisation is a centre for the collection of food products – mainly fresh foods, including fruit, vegetables, dairy products charcuterie, fish and meat. We collect +/- 1 tonne per day (vs. 500 tonnes for the year 2021), from supermarkets (75%), food producers (20%) and farms (5%). In supermarkets, the unsold products are all mixed up in the containers, so they must subsequently be sorted and then the containers cleaned to be sanitized and clean.

Amount provided: €7,500

Contact person: Jean-Claude Mantez, jean-claude.mantez@hotmail.com

Dominos LA FONTAINE asbl – Dinant

Fridges to provide greater efficacy.

Our main refrigerators are old, consume a lot of energy and are too small, whilst requests for food aid are on the increase. Our project aims to replace the older fridges and increase storage space for the foods we receive from our partners, whilst at the same time reducing our energy consumption.

Amount provided: €2,600

Contact person: Rachid Abbou, lafontaineasbl@hotmail.be

7. Hainaut

Round Table Belgium – Courcelles

Deliveries and mobile teams. Material assistance and listening to vulnerable people through food parcels delivered to their home and by mobile teams. Involvement of the beneficiaries in our activities and awareness building campaigns about poverty.

Re-distribution of foods received from large retail chains, private individuals and grants to the homes of vulnerable people by mobile teams from the Charleroi branch, as well as the provision of listening.

Awareness-building and participatory campaigns in schools about poverty.

Provision of well-balanced snacks and lunches for schoolchildren.

Bridge-building between people and beneficiaries and their inclusion in our activities.

Amount provided: €7,493

Contact person: Eric Dricot, eric.dricot@sgs.com

ASBL Trait d'Union Chimay – Chimay

Optimisation of Trait d'Union's food parcel distribution procedures

Our request for support has 3 parts to it, aimed at improving food distribution: the purchase of refrigerated containers for the transportation of frozen foods provided by BAC; participation in the transport costs of our beneficiaries to get to the distribution premises, and the purchase of a software program to organise the allocation of the food in the food parcels and their distribution. Part of the grant will also be devoted to the purchase of food and non-food products.

Amount provided: €7,500

Contact person: Jean-Luc Vigreux, jeanlucvigreux@gmail.com

Entraide pause-café Saint Vincent de Paul – Momignies

S'investir pour mieux servir

Afin d'assurer une meilleure qualité des produits frais pour les bénéficiaires du service d'entraide, nous envisageons l'installation d'une chambre froide dans un local annexe qui doit être réalisé.

Montant accordé : 7.500€

Personne de contact : Ciscato Marie-Jenny, ciscatofm@hotmail.com

UTOPIE asbl – La Louvière

More than a food bank!

Our project aims to extend the association's activities and improve the efficacy of distribution by 1) creating a meeting and discussion space for our beneficiaries, 2) by improving the material conditions of distribution so as to facilitate volunteers' work so that that can serve for longer and 3) by multiplying the information sessions aimed at motivating new volunteers.

Amount provided: €6,820

Contact person: Patrick Pietquin, admin@utopie-asbl.be

Les Ailes du Phoenix – Bernissart

Reaching out to others

The Ailes du Phoenix association helps the most deprived people in the rural areas of Beloeil and Bernissart. The association has acquired a vehicle to collect food from shops to be re-distributed to families in need. We also have a project to take food parcels to those who are physically unable to go to our centres – the elderly, people who are sick or have a disability etc. We also aim to improve the quality of products offered by purchasing a refrigerator to keep vegetables cool.

Amount provided: €7,500

Contact person: Jean-Jacques Lebailly, lebailj@skynet.be

Resto du Coeur Quiévrain-Honnelles ASBL – Quiévrain

Solidarity, training and integration, getting involved

Through various workshops and activities, we get our beneficiaries to suggest activities, encourage them to highlight their skills (and support them) and help them to dare to take responsibility to get involved in and lead their project (support). Through this, we train new volunteers and ultimately improve the quality of our services.

Amount provided: €7,500

Contact person: Tony Paredes, restoducoeurquievrain@hotmail.com

Les Ouvriers du Coeur Saint-Vincent de Paul Péruwelz – Péruwelz

Improving logistics and education in fresh and frozen product food aid. Improving knowledge about the association in the community and recruitment of volunteers.

Today, some of the equipment used for the cold chain in our food aid is aging. We will therefore purchase material to improve the preservation of the cold chain during the transportation, storage and removal of products, about which the beneficiaries will be informed. Management of the food aid will be computerized.

A door-to-door leaflet information campaign will be conducted to make the work of the association with deprived people better known and to recruit more volunteers.

Amount provided: €7,500

Contact person: Patrick Manouvriez, p.manouvriez@gmail.com

Edelweiss Resto du Coeur asbl – Mouscron

Smart take-aways!

Stop the waste! From now on, the Mouscron Resto du Coeur would like to offer compartmentalized and re-usable food trays to its beneficiaries. An ecological as well as an economic gesture.

Amount provided: €7,000

Contact person: Xavier Bouret, edelweiss.restoducoeur.mouscron@gmail.com

8. Luxembourg

Alimen'T – Bastogne

Making use of surplus and unsold foods for meals

This project involves making meals (pizzas, pasta and quiches etc.) for the most deprived people in the province of Luxemburg. Our meals are produced thanks to recuperation by our association of surplus and unsold foods from local supermarkets and producers. We wish to create these

preparations, which are much in demand by the beneficiaries, so that they can be frozen and later redistributed. Our activities enable us to fight food waste as well as poverty.

Amount provided: €7,500

Contact person: Jean-Paul Weles, info@alimen-t.be

Relais Première Urgence – Virton

Help for families in social and financial difficulty living in the commune of Virton

Our association, Relais Première Urgence, would like to pay for school meals for children from vulnerable families in nursery, primary and secondary schools, as well as providing for fun, recreational and/or sports activities and holiday camps for some of these children.

Amount provided: €7,500

Contact person: Françoise Delvigne, francoise.delvigne@hotmail.com

Les P'tits Dons de Pétilons – Durbuy

Cooking workshops and health awareness for the most deprived

This project involves cooking workshops to train the beneficiaries of food support in the Durbuy region. They regularly receive fresh and/or dry products but which they do not know how to cook. To help them, we should like to organize workshops on how to prepare simple but taste dishes with these products. We should also like to improve our collection and distribution operations with the purchase of a covered stall.

Amount provided: €7,500

Contact person: Audrey Simon, audreysimon.1981@gmail.com

9. West-Vlaanderen

Welzijnsschakel Kantel – Brugge - Sint-Kruis

From Kantel-house to Kantel-home

The Kantelhuis is an activity centre run by Welzijnsschakel Kantel that operates as a food bank for the underprivileged. It is based in two former classrooms. With a view to improving its services, Wzs Kantel wants to make its premises more homely. There is also an urgent need for solar shading that will keep indoor temperatures pleasant. The first room houses the food products, the second is set up as a cafeteria and meeting centre.

Amount awarded: €7,500

Contact: Seyssens Carlos, cseyssens@yahoo.com

VZW IN.TACTE - COL.SOL – Ostend

The non-profit In.Tacte col.Sol is expanding. The increasing number of customers and the new meeting space also require a logistically efficient and energy-efficient approach. This requires additional resources for sustainable investments for the future.

Colsol is the largest food distribution point in Ostend, a member of the emergency food aid network and since March 2022 a food redistribution partner of Foodsavers Middenkust. A meeting space was created to focus even more strongly on temporary help, alongside referring partners. Due to an increase in the number of clients, reception space and an order from the city of Ostend to share the space with the non-profit Medios (mat.aid), the group needs to organise its operation more compactly.

Amount awarded: €7,500

Contact person: Dewulf Tiny, tinetje@hotmail.com

St.Vincentius De Lage Drempel KERIT – Oudenburg

Start-up social grocery in Oudenburg

The Sint-Vincentius community De Lage Drempel Kerit, in collaboration with the OCMW, distributes food items each week to Oudenburg residents living below the poverty line. Food distribution is in huge demand. In a year, the number of beneficiaries has doubled, with between 50 and 60 families visiting weekly. This challenge is not to be ignored, and in tandem with the OCMW, a social grocery shop was launched in November 2022 with the help of the Foodsavers project.

Amount awarded: €7,500

Contact: Desmeth Jos, jos.desmeth@telenet.be

VZW Sint-Michiël Agape – Kortrijk

Young people make a difference! Young volunteers in charge at the Potpourri social shop in Kortrijk.

Idealism and enthusiasm are the perfect traits for people who want to start volunteering. Young people have them in abundance and they are great partners to work with adults to welcome and serve people in precarious situations. They make sure the social shop runs smoothly. Through external training and coaching, they also learn to deal with difficult situations. This keeps their fire burning and makes work efficient and pleasant, for both employees and customers.

Amount awarded: €7,500

Contact: De Leeuw Tine, tine.sintmichiël@gmail.com

vzw De Oever – Harelbeke

Digitalisation of social grocery operation with associated mobile digipoint

The organisation wants to work on sustainability and digitalisation of the daily operation of the social grocery, as well as a mobile digipoint for customers. Today, everyone uses their own computer and mobile phone. This requires staff to give customers their personal phone number, which may pose a problem in case of absence. Hence the decision to invest in equipment and software.

Amount awarded: €5,000

Contact: Deschutter José, deschutterjose@gmail.com

TasToe – Wevelgem

Implementation of an IT tool at three food distribution organisations in South West Flanders; better monitoring and signalling of food aid; better linking of food aid to professional welfare provision; fairer redistribution system for food aid

In a broad partnership, Food Act 13, vzw TasToe, vzw Toemaatje and OCMW Anzegem want to implement a digital registration programme that improves the organisations' operations, tracking the surplus distributed and linking it to a customer management system. The latter should help to create an efficient and coherent poverty reduction plan of which food aid is only a part.

Amount awarded: €7,500

Contact: Poppe Paul, paul_poppe@skynet.be

VZW Op 't Spoor – Ypres

Next step in efficiency, food safety and conviviality

The number of clients in the food ministry continues to grow, forcing the organisation to further optimise its operations. To work more efficiently, it has the help of some new volunteers in mind and it always handles food as safely as possible. After the pandemic years when it was difficult to provide a warm welcome for customers, the non-profit is relaunching its cafeteria, to offer a cup of coffee and some winter warmth.

Amount awarded: €7,347

Contact: Durnez Katrien, katrien.durnez@telenet.be

vzw "De Wervel" – Poperinge

De Wervel "switches gears". Working together, it focuses on quality, sustainability, poverty reduction and social employment in food aid

De Wervel is committed to improving operations and building bridges with the missing links in its operations. By joining the Foodsavers distribution platform, it is focusing on sustainability, poverty reduction and social employment. De Wervel is an accessible meeting place for the most vulnerable residents. With partners, it organises accessible activities, and offers support to increasing numbers of volunteers.

Amount awarded: €7,500

Contact: Doom Rita, ritadoom@outlook.be

10. Oost-Vlaanderen

KRAS VZW – Ghent

Efficient food support as a lever to sustainable poverty reduction, reduced burden and more capacity for volunteers and target group

Food aid helps people in poverty in the short term but is not a sustainable solution. KRAS wants to work with volunteers, users and partners to develop solutions that improve the quality and efficiency of food aid (through ergonomic scanning and procurement), recruiting and training volunteers and directing people to their rights (via film clips for vulnerable young people). It can thus better fulfil its social role of empowering people and providing long-term prospects.

Amount awarded: €7,500

Contact: De Rijcke Karleen, krasgent@gmail.com

Koninklijke Dekenij Bloemekenswijk Sociale Werken (Voedselondersteuning) – Ghent

Energy-efficient solutions aimed at sustainable quality food support for a growing target group

More and more people are asking for food aid, and the energy crisis will add to that demand. With energy-efficient equipment, this organisation aims to continue providing quality food aid and meeting the growing need. By working with social workers in the neighbourhood, it wants to use the food support moments to guide people who come for food towards possible solutions for energy poverty as well as other social rights.

Amount awarded: €7,000

Contact: De Wael Nicole, krasgent@gmail.com

De Zuidpoort Gent vzw – Ghent

Social welcome with neighbourhood-oriented offer of food support at Het Geraarke in Nieuw Gent

Het Geraarke is a food support service in Nieuw Gent that caters to around 100 people each month. It wants to provide social support through individual conversations with tailored assistance. In doing so, it aims to inform people of their rights and refer them to an appropriate service. It wants to work with volunteers to create a neighbourhood services guide.

Amount awarded: €7,500

Contact: Vandenbroucke Esther, esther@dezuidpoortgent.be

Sociaal9050 vzw – Ghent

Sociaal 9050: food-safe food distribution tailored to people's needs

For more than 20 years, Social 9050 has been distributing food in Ledeborg (a district of Ghent), on a voluntary basis. The demand is growing. To address this, it wants to further improve the quality and quantity of its food distribution. By using professional refrigeration and freezing equipment, it can collect and store more food in an energy-efficient way, to meet real needs and demands.

Amount awarded: €7,000

Contact: Declerck Lisa Marie, sociaal9050@hotmail.be

De Grote Tafel vzw – Sint-Amandsberg

De Grote Tafel connects through tea, coffee and cake

This non-profit aims to reach vulnerable people who cannot or don't want to leave their homes. It wants to travel to them for a coffee and a chat and offer help where possible. That way, it can either offer people a healthy meal and deliver it to their homes, or convince them to come out of isolation and sit down to dinner at De Grote Tafel. For this, it needs a means of transport that is ecological and easy to handle.

Amount awarded: €5,999

Contact: Anja Van Gelderen, anja@degrotetafel.be

VoedSaam vzw – Sint-Niklaas

Growth of food supply through optimisation of logistics and expansion of volunteer operation.

Professionalising and optimising logistics operations. Setting up transparent inventory management. Doubling food supply. Expanding the volunteer network. Further tailoring VoedSaam's capabilities to partners' needs (food distribution points, non-profits and OCMWs). Elaboration of cooperation agreement between food distribution points, local councils and VoedSaam.

Amount awarded: €7,500

Contact: Beirens Eric, eric.beirens@voedsaam.be

CURA – Temse - Tielrode

Expansion of Cura Waas to increase the quality and efficiency of food distribution

Cura Waas helps people in need with what is essential: food. More and more families are coming to Cura for food parcels. This creates additional pressure on food distribution and a need for extra volunteers, more food and better infrastructure. The first two can largely be accommodated with partners; the latter requires financial support. In particular, in order not to interrupt the chilled food supply chain, Cura needs a refrigerated trailer, a cold store and refrigerator, among other equipment.

Amount awarded: €7,500

Contact: Verdonck Jonathan, jonathanverdonck@gmail.com

Wijkcentrum De Kring vzw – Eeklo

Sociale Kruidenier 't Wijksken focuses on meeting, social network, entitlements and e-inclusion

The social grocery reaches around 300 families, where it sees a high proportion of non-native speakers, high levels of loneliness, ignorance of rights, numerous problems in various areas of life and rising digital exclusion. It wants to use the shopping moments more actively to direct families towards meetings, information and activities so they can realise their basic social rights.

Amount awarded: €6,500

Contact: Matthys Jan, jan@wijkcentrumdekring.be

Sociale Kruidenier Evergem – Evergem

Sociale Kruidenier Evergem: expanded capacity

The Sociale Kruidenier Evergem (SKE) is a shop where the customers are people in poverty. Customers can select from a high-quality range, which distinguishes SKE from traditional emergency assistance. Clients receive a monthly (free) budget to spend on products that have been purchased or donated. SKE is also a meeting place where customers can go for a chat. Staff offer a listening ear and help with information where possible.

Amount awarded: €7,500

Contact: Stas Hugo, hugostas@gmail.com