

# Just transition in food systems

Deborah Myaux  
UCSIA conference  
30 May 2024

CONCERTATION AIDE ALIMENTAIRE



# FDSS.BE

- ▶ Federates and represents associative social services in Wallonia and Brussels.
- ▶ Develops projects, training and expertise, particularly in the fields of social work, the right to food, and the right to water and energy.

## FOOD AID CONCERTATION

- ▶ Created by FdSS in 2006
- ▶ Brings together, supports and accompanies organizations active in food aid in Wallonia and Brussels to respond to emergencies.
- ▶ Combats social inequalities and advocates access to fundamental rights, especially the right to food.



# SOCIAL WORK AND FOOD AID

---

## DEFINITION OF SOCIAL WORK

Social work promotes social change, solving problems in the context of human relationships, empowering and liberating people to improve their well-being. Social work draws on theories of human behavior and social systems to intervene where human beings interact with their environment. The principles of human rights and social justice are fundamental to social work.

Comité de vigilance en travail social – ETHIQUE DANS LE TRAVAIL SOCIAL -  
DÉCLARATION DE PRINCIPES – 2004. [www.comitedevigilance.be](http://www.comitedevigilance.be)



# FOOD AID

More and more people forced to turn to food aid

## Estimation

➤ ≈ 600.000 people (+/- 30% increase post-covid)

## Who ?

- Beneficiaries of the social integration income
- Elderly people with small pensions
- Migrants
- Homeless people
- Students
- Working poor
- Single-parent families...

Severe material deprivation -  
Statbel 2024

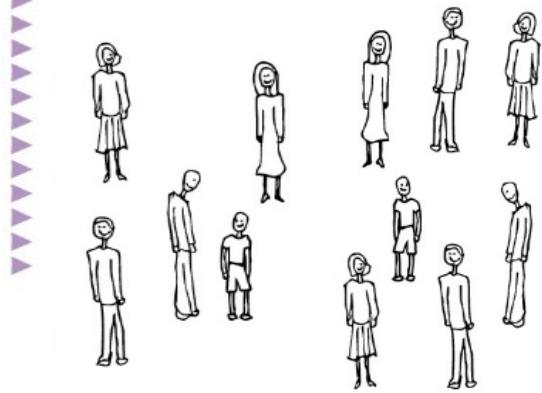
Population unable to afford a  
meal consisting of meat,  
chicken or fish at least every  
two days.

Belgium 4.2%

Brussels 12.7%

Flanders 1.4%

Wallonia 6.4%

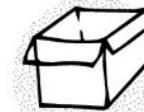


# AIDE ALIMENTAIRE

## Main supply sources

Unsold goods from market

FSE+ : budget 2025 +/- 25 millions euro



Les distributions de colis  
Food parcels



Les épiceries sociales  
Social groceries



Les restaurants sociaux et communaux  
Social restaurants



Solidarity Fridges



Vouchers



Food distribution on the street...





# OUR WORK

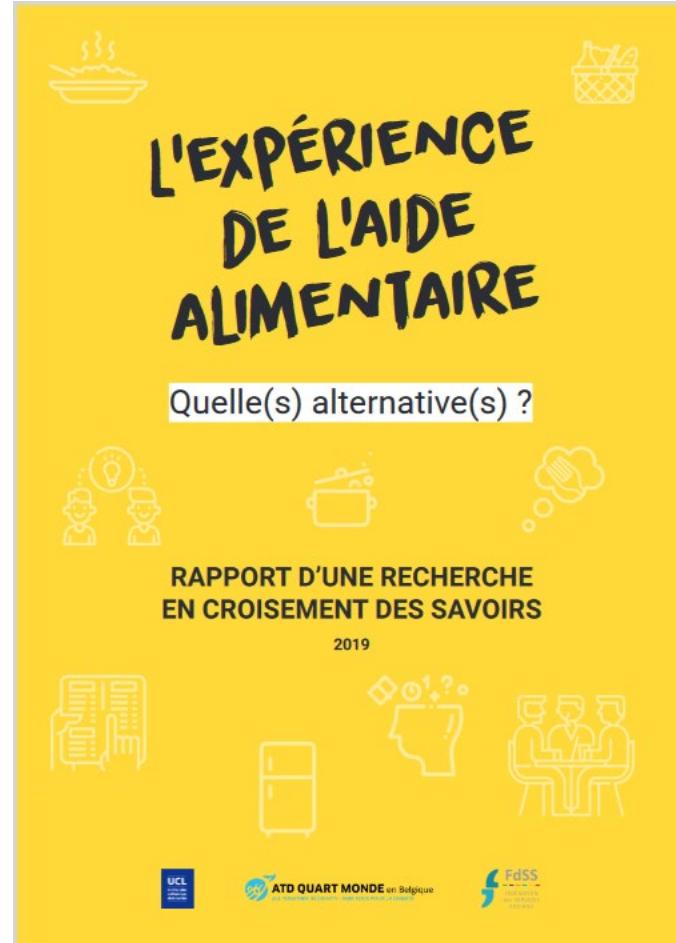
## CONTINUUM FROM FOOD AID TO THE RIGHT TO FOOD



# Research 2018-2019

A participative research project enabled people experience of poverty, social workers and university researchers to exchange over several months on the issue of food aid and its alternatives.

Violence was at the heart of the researchers' analysis.

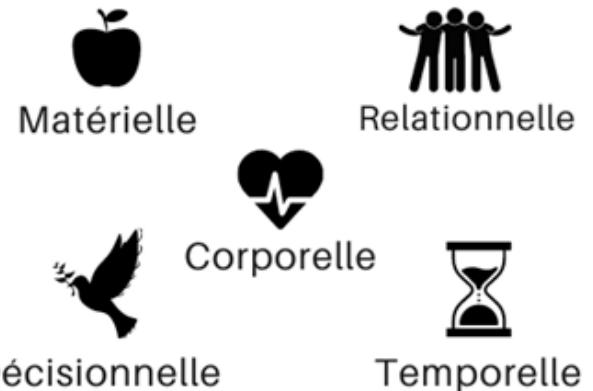


# Principles of action

Reference : Anthropology of Food, "Précarisation alimentaire, résistances individuelles et expériences pratiques", S15, 2020

- ▶ Well-being at the heart of the action
- ▶ Move toward **unconditional aid** (vouchers for example)
- ▶ Give a voice to people living in poverty and consider food insecurity as a political issue that must have its place in public debate and democratic action.

## **5 DIMENSIONS DU BIEN-ÊTRE**



# Thank you for your attention!

aidealimentaire@fdss.be  
[www.fdss.be](http://www.fdss.be) onglet « Aide alimentaire »

**La Coordination Aide Alimentaire en Région bruxelloise**  
Rue Gheude 49 - 1070 Bruxelles

**La Coordination Aide Alimentaire en Région wallonne**  
Rue Simonon 8 - 4000 Liège

**CONCERTATION AIDE ALIMENTAIRE**