

COAST TO COAST
CLIMATE CHALLENGE

**Civic participation —
City of Leuven**

**Participation / 'creating
our city together'**

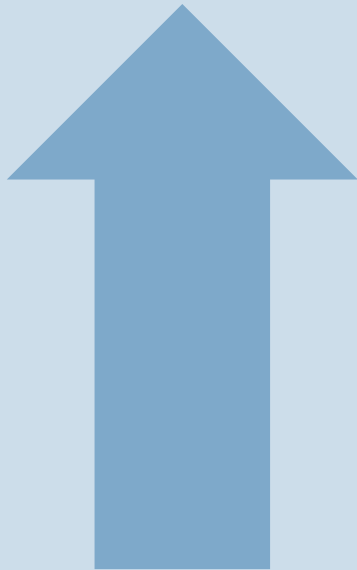
**the foundation of a lot of
coalition agreements**

≠ single shot

= a basic attitude and part of a working method used by modern government (or it should be)

about engaging your citizens in policy-making and its execution

... because this all leads to better results (nr 1) and a broader public support.



- **At citizens request**
- **By the government**
- **Interaction between both (in terms of working method & expectations)**

To illustrate this: at this moment 75 processes (initiated by a top down approach) are being carried out in Leuven during which citizens and other partners are engaged.

Thuis in de stad

93% woont graag in Leuven

1 slechts 5% voelt zich soms onveilig

85% is tevreden over de stad

1 84% is tevreden over de buurt

84% voelt zich gelukkig

81% vindt dat er voldoende groen in de buurt is

Zoveel Leuvenaars zijn tevreden over:

Sportvoorzieningen	87%	1
Recreatievoorzieningen	84%	2
Culturele voorzieningen	86%	1
Restaurants en eetcafés	92%	1
Cafés, dancings en terrassen	86%	1

MOOIE CIJFERS VOOR

Open en betrokken Leuvenaars

1 Leuvenaars hebben de meest open houding t.o.v. mensen met een andere herkomst

2 72% vindt de aanwezigheid van inwoners met een andere herkomst een verrijking

3 71% vindt dat mensen met een verschillende herkomst goed samenleven in de stad

1 Het aantal Leuvenaars met veel vertrouwen in het stadsbestuur stijgt +16%

2 Leuvenaars handelen het meest milieubewust

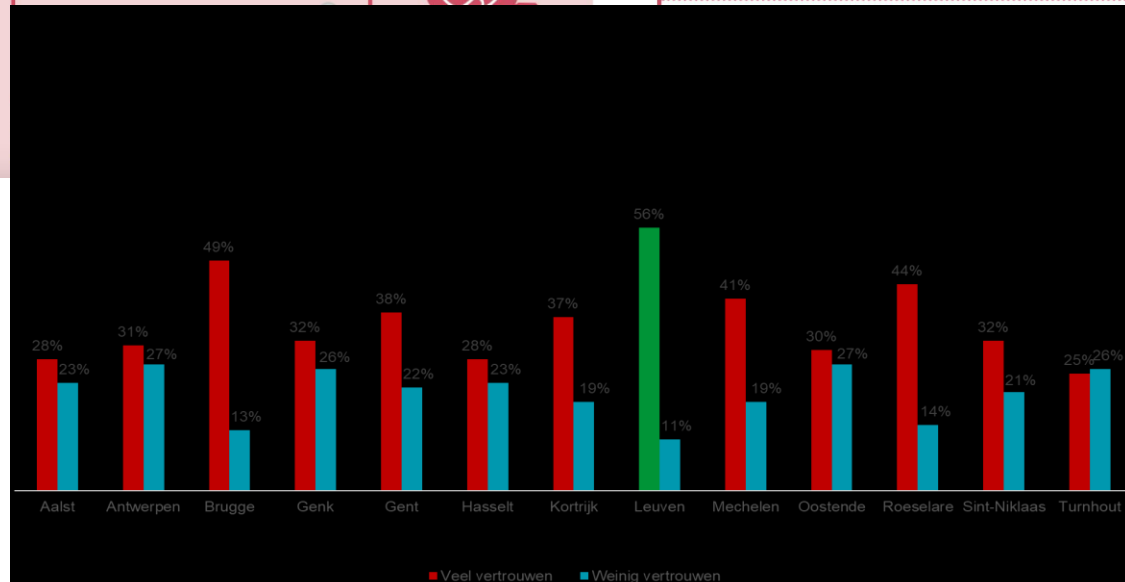
Leuven!

3 Het stadsbestuur consulteert zijn inwoners voldoende +15%

3 Tevredenheid over de manier waarop de stad omspringt met vragen van inwoners +16%

Good grades according to city survey

- Gaining citizens' trust (+16 %)
- More citizens feel engaged
- Good communication to citizens



Source: Gemeente-Stadsmonitor

≠ single shot

so a diverse
approach in
Leuven

Three cases to illustrate...

‘Kom op voor je wijk (*Stand up for your neighbourhood*)

- Longterm and permanent call & channel for citizens
- Stepping stone & anchor point

‘Leuven, maak het mee!’ (*Leuven, create and participate*)

- Involvement in multi-annual plan and internal operations of the city
- Online participation and how to handle all the input?

Random selection & deliberation **as methodology**

- To deepen out complex processes
- To reach a broader diversity

Kom op door je wijk

Create!

- ✓ financial support up to 18,600 euros
- ✓ for a larger period of time

Stand up for your Neighborhood and Invent! A neighborhood sitting area, additional playground, a work of art, a small fountain ... Which well-thought-out initiative will turn your neighborhood into an even nicer and cozier place to live in?

Undeveloped construction site converted into a temporary neighborhood park.



Neighborhood sitting area 'De Triangel', a permanent and cozy meeting place.



A pelanque field revitalizes the neighborhood.



The 'Street Talent' booklet presents the special skills of each neighbor.



Brightening up the neighborhood.

Experiment!

- ✓ temporary
- ✓ out of the box

Stand up for your Neighborhood and experiment! Your neighborhood has come up with some crazy and wild ideas that you first want to try out for a couple of months? Do you have a refreshing idea to restyle the street layout and furniture? Do you want to suggest a creative approach for making the transition to a more environmentally friendly mobility in your neighborhood? Have you been thinking over another way of taking care and watching over your immediate neighbors? Submit your project and the city will assess its feasibility together with you. If your project gets a positive feedback, you can try it out for a minimum period of one month and a maximum period of 6 months. After this trial period, the city will evaluate it, together with the neighborhood. Positive experiences may lead to structural improvements.



Join in!

- ✓ easy application
- ✓ city's 'ready-to-use' offer

Stand up for your Neighborhood and subscribe! The city has gathered a range of valuable, ready-to-use initiatives that are easy to set up and in which your neighborhood can participate by simply subscribing. It is a smart way to revitalize the community live. Make your choice between the following projects:

Community garden

Work all together to turn an unused area of your neighborhood into a community garden. It's a healthy, tasty and sociable initiative.

Little free library

A little free library is a small box in front of your house where people can share books or magazines. You take one, you leave one ... A great idea that will certainly please your neighbors.

Neighbors' Day

The moment of the year to celebrate community life. That specific day, the city supports all kinds of neighborhood activities to promote the community life.

Bulletin panels

Your neighborhood can ask for a bulletin panel to announce neighborhood news and activities.

Street or neighborhood block party

You want to organize a party in your street or neighborhood? You can rent all the equipment you need from the city, free of charge! If possible, the city closes the street or neighborhood to traffic for the duration of your event.



Community gardens



Little free library



Neighbors' Day



Bulletin panels



Neighborhood block party



Long-term and permanent call

- 20 years and counting
- 84 'create projects' are running at this moment, (this causes a permanent movement)

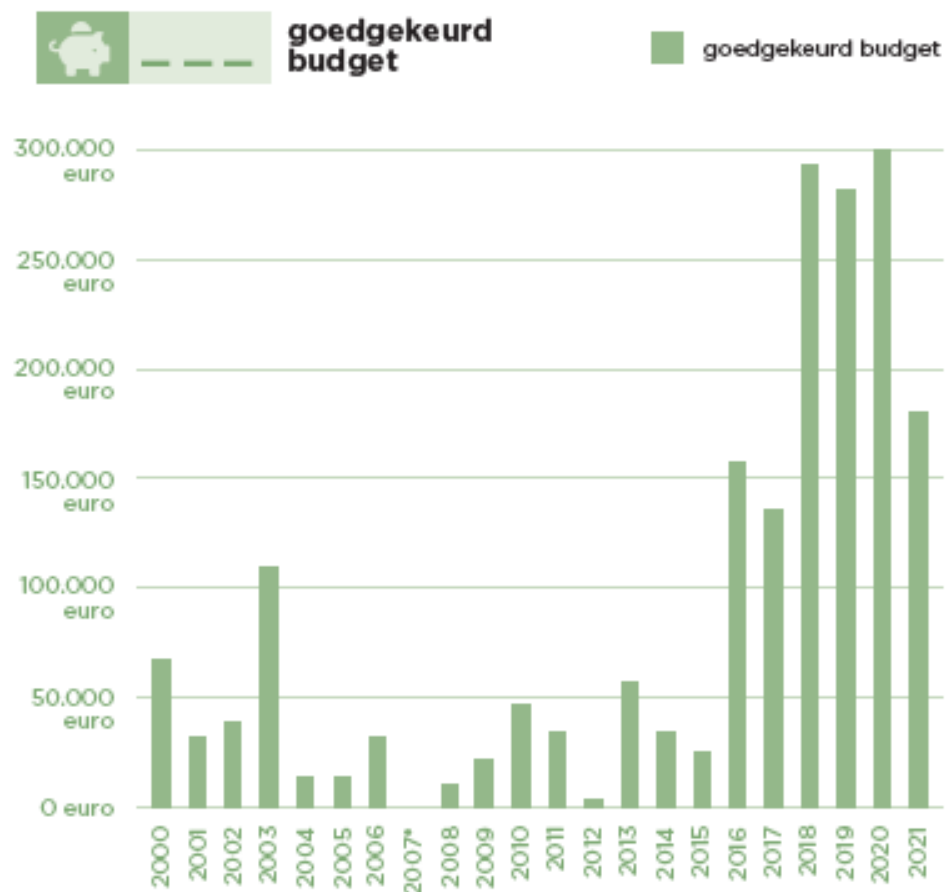
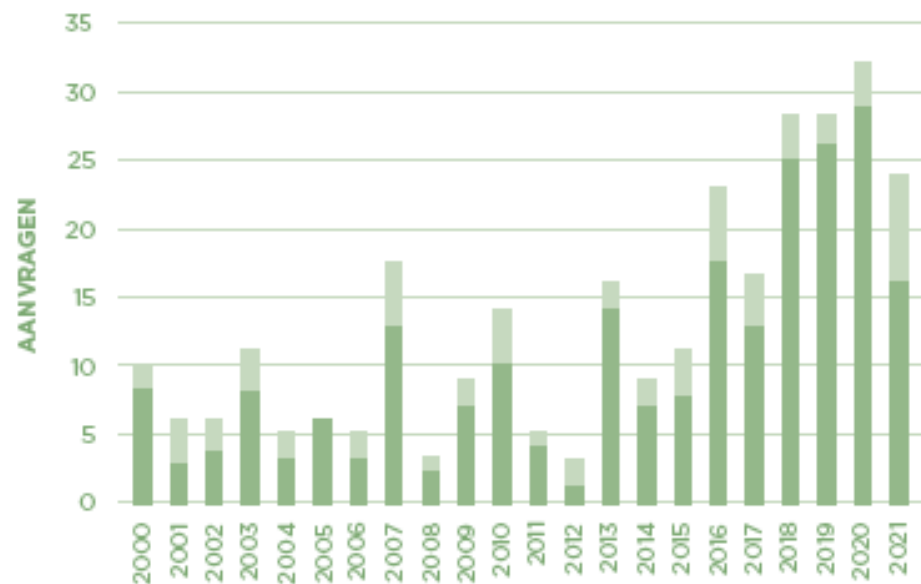
Stepping stone & anchor point

- Easy accessible entry
- Execution of other creative ideas is possible
- In their own neighbourhood

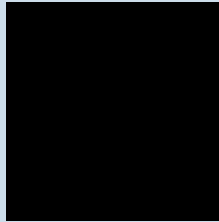
Collaboration with city council and services

- Inviting conduction & shared initiative
- Impact on relationship between partners and breeding ground for other projects

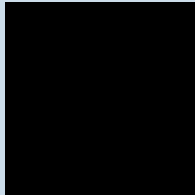
20 JAAR IN CIJFERS



*Voor 2007 zijn geen cijfers beschikbaar.



Number of projects tripled the last 5 years



**Budget of 40,000 evolved to a yearly
306,000 EUR
(‘create projects’ only)**



FINISH

BROOD

SHOP
TE KOOP
TE HUUR

LEUVEN

MAAK
het
mee



Leuven, maak het mee!

A participation project for the multi-annual plan

Interaction between online & offline

- Online platform to collect ideas
- Offline recruitment / mobilisation of target audience

City and organisation wide

- All domains and all city services
- Intense back office for processing the ideas
= integral working method

Until the end of the legislature

- Transparency regarding ideas and course of multi-annual plan
- Internal process still runs within our organisation

Out of 2,208 ideas, 1,348 were included in the multi-annual plan (by processing all online input)

Participation projects with random selected citizen panels

‘Oevers van de Vaart’

- Jury of citizens deciding about agency and design plans

‘Wijgmaal in de Steigers’

- Forming an area-oriented plan
- Future of Wijgmaal on a lot of domains

‘Vorm 3010’

- Mobility plan and part of the European project Climate-KIC
- Focussing on meeting each other, mobility and sustainability

Why random selection?

- **More qualitative input**
- **A better representation of the whole population**
- **Discussing all possible themes, also more complex ones**

Criteria

- **sex**
- **age**
- **education level**
- ***geographic dispersion***
- ***most important mode of transport***
- ***type of residence***

Intermediate conclusions of the random selected citizen panel

Draw and deliberation leads to **more qualitative conversations**

- Diverse and accurate reflection of population
- Intense trajectory with a fixed group and customised training

Constructive process with a **focus on common interest**

- Personal interests are not a reason to participate
- Starts and builds on input from the district and different stakeholders

! High staffing demand & cost

- Intensive course
- Combined with population wide participation

! Provide space for and pay attention to existing stakeholders

- At the start as well as during the trajectory
- Communicate the role and working method of the panel in a clear way

! Take care of the panel members

Criteria (tabel) geloot panel Vaartkomeevers

Selectie criterium	Leuvense volwassen bevolking (2015)	Steekproef (loting vrijwilligers) 1	Steekproef (loting panelleden) 2
Populatie (+ 18 jaar)	81403	2000	14
Geslacht			
Man	40312 (49,5 %)	990	7
Vrouw	41091 (50,5 %)	1010	7
Leeftijd			
18-24 jaar	9988 (12,3 %)	245	(1,72) 2
25-39 jaar	27271 (33,5 %)	670	(4,69) 5
40-54 jaar	17701 (21,7 %)	435	(3,04) 3
55-69 jaar	14537 (17,9 %)	357	(2,51) 2
70 jaar en ouder	11906 (15,0 %)	293	(2,10) 2
Woonplaats			
Buurtbewoner	462*	46	2
Geen buurtbewoner	80941	1954	12
Opleidingsniveau**			
Laaggeschoold	39,98 %	800	6
Hooggeschoold	60,02 %	1200	8

*cijfers voor januari 2020; **cijfers uit stadsmonitor 2017;

Stappen:

1. bepalen van criteria & aantal
2. programma schrijven Excel / R
3. Steekproef 1
4. motiverende brief
5. Steekproef 2