

Inter-municipal cooperation

Why do municipalities cooperate ?

LU 75.zinātniskā konference
Zemes un vides zinātņu nozares sekcija
Apakšsekcija „Vietu plānošana un attīstība”

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Why do local authorities cooperate and for which issues ?

Overview of shared issues

Overview of types of inter-municipal cooperation

in Belgium, Germany, France and The Netherlands

How lord mayors of rural municipalities cooperate and why ?

What could be the benefits of sub-regional cooperation in Latvia ?

FORMAL (legal) IMC

Issues	Tasks (examples)
ENERGY (gas, electr., heating, water)	Production, distribution,..
ENVIRONMENT	Purification of water Collection, treatment of waste
TRANSPORT	Public T, velo New roads, maintenance,...
HEALTH/CARE	Hospitals, Day care, Atelier for disabled, Aged people,...
SAFETY	Fire Brigade,...
PUBLIC BUILDINGS	Building, exploitation, maintenance
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT	Business Parks, Housing, Recreation areas, Collective staff

Shared issues

Often in INFORMAL IMC

Issues	Tasks (examples)
ON MUNICIPAL LEVEL	
BASIC MUNICIPAL TASKS	Sharing Staff & experts for diverse issues
UTILITIES & SERVICES	Sharing buildings, services
ON SUPRA-MUNICIPAL LEVEL	
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Branding, communication, networking, lobbying,...
REGIONAL STRATEGIES	Governance, cooperation with External ACTORS
REGIONAL POLICIES	Joint policies and lobbying

Types of IMC

FORMAL With legal body	INFORMAL Without legal body
Can operate autonomously	Cannot have own staff
Can have own staff	Cannot sign contracts
Can take over municipal competences	
Steered by Council of municipalities	Informal meetings
Controlled by guardianship authorities	
With and without Tax Authority	

EXAMPLES

**With
Legal body**

Communautés Urbaines

100 % PUBLIC

COUNCIL:

From 2014 directly elected by inhabitants

FINANCIAL MEANS:

Directly from taxes (personal & economical)

VOLUNTARY DECISION to join a COMM
OBLIGED TRANSFER of competences

URBAN COMMUNITY:

The purpose of the urban communities is to achieve cooperation and joint administration between cities and their independent suburbs.

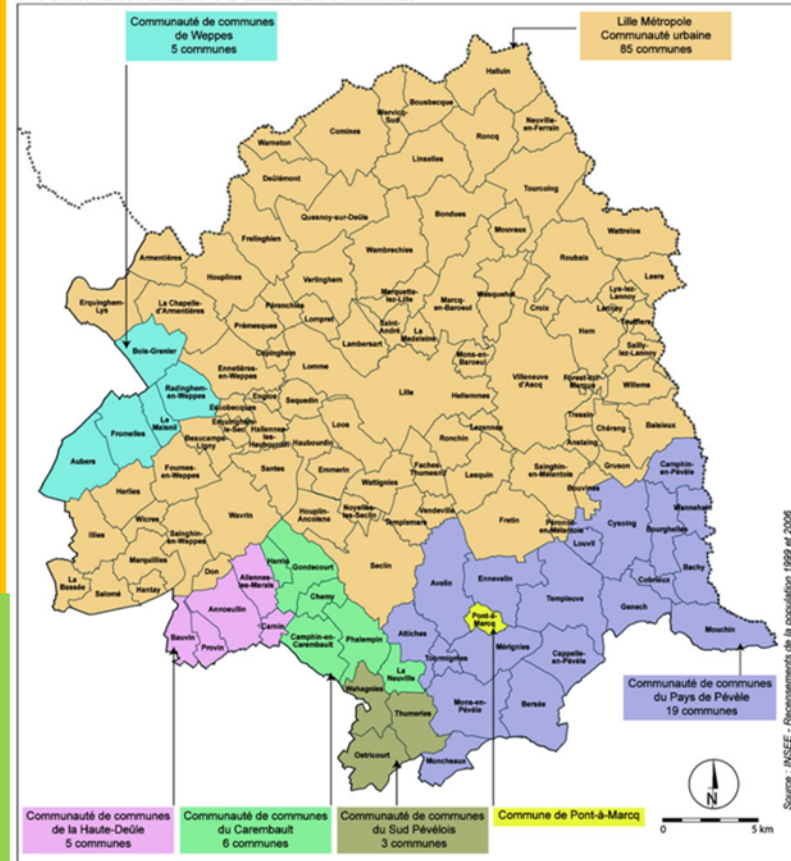
4 in 1966, 15 in 2010

Biggest: 1.2 million inh. (Grand-Lyon)

Smallest: 48.700 inh.

France

■ ARRONDISSEMENT DE LILLE 124 COMMUNES



Urban Community of Lille
85 municipalities
(light brown)

Example: Urban Community 'Métropole Européenne de Lille'



Council with 179 directly elected Politicians for 6 years

85 municipalities

Each municipality has at least 1 seat

More seats depending of amount of inhabitants

The Office (Executive): 44

1.109.000 inhabitants

61.145 km²

Budget: 1.636 Million euro (2014)

COMPETENCES ME Lille

- Spatial Planning
- Sustainable development
 - Culture
- Accessibility for All
 - Household waste
- Economy and Labour
 - Public transport
 - Infrastructure
 - Housing
- Nature and environment
 - Water purification
 - Water distribution
 - Tourism
- Sports and recreation
 - Crematorium
- European and International issues

‘Kreis’ (rural district)

Group of municipalities around a city



Obliged
Cooperation

Direct elected
politicians



Kreis Wittenberg
129.500 inhabitants

Germany

COMPETENCES

- The building and upkeep of "B" roads
- Other building plans which cover more than one local authority's area
- Caring for national parks
 - Social welfare
 - Youth welfare
- The building and upkeep of hospitals
- The building and upkeep of state schools of secondary education
- Household waste collection and disposal
- Car registration
- Electing the Landrat or Landrätin, the chairperson of the district

Barcelona Regional (1993)

Work area:

The Barcelona Metropolitan Area

- 4,4 million inhabitants
- 70% of Catalonia, 6th largest area in EU
- Including a group of mature cities

<http://www.bcnsus.com/>

Shareholders: 100 % Public

- Barcelona & municipalities
- Transport Cy
- Public Housing Cy
- Waste Management Cy
- Zona Franca
- Port of Barcelona
- Spanish Airports Cy
- National Railnetwork
- Chamber of Commerce

Flanders

Law IMC 2001

Flanders (Belgium)	Interlocal cooperations	Project Cooperations
		Cooperations providing services
		Cooperations in Commission

EUROPEAN directive 26.02.2014:

**IN-HOUSE commissioning in IMC context is now possible
without Tender procedure**

Flanders

Example:



INTERCOMMUNALE LEIEDAL
IMC for regional development

Planning
and
designing
own
developments

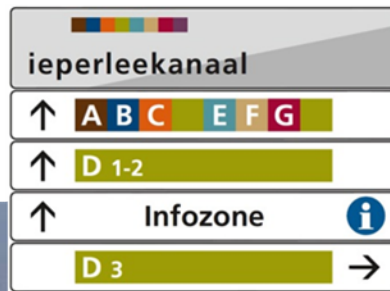
New business
Park
combined with
new housing
area



Flanders Example:



Business Park Management

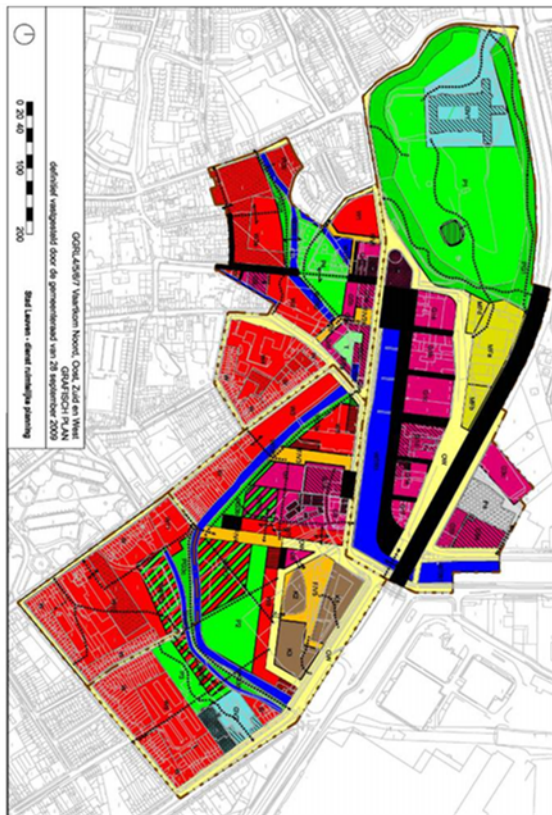


GIS Database for Business Park Management



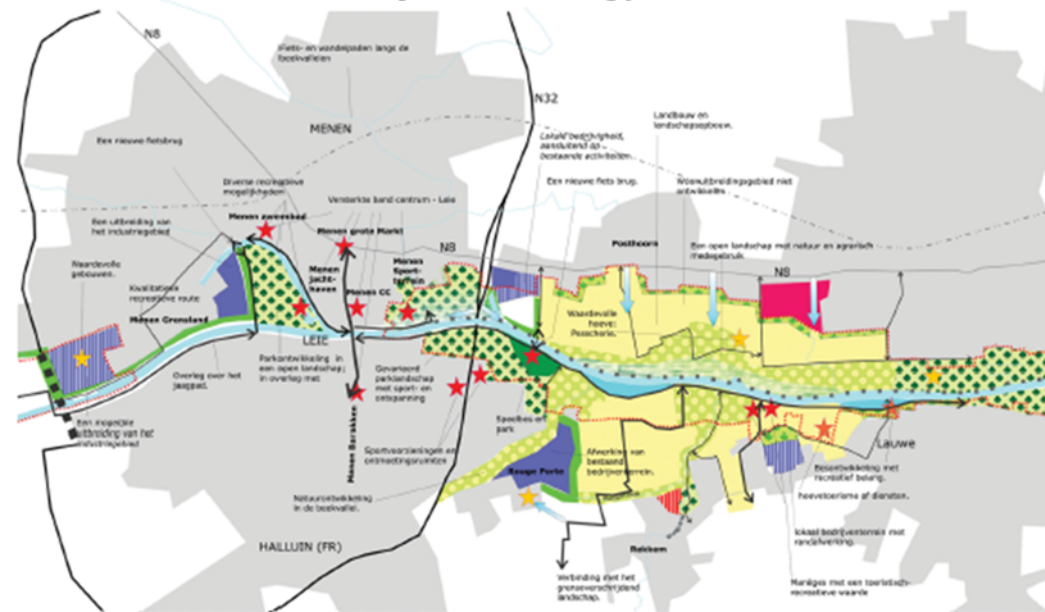
Flanders Example:

PLANNING for the municipalities



Land Use plan

Landscape strategy River Leie

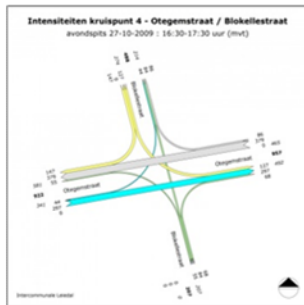


Flanders Example:



INTERCOMMUNALE LEIEDAL

CONSULTANCE for the municipalities



- Traffic & mobility
- Environment
- Water

REGIONAL STRATEGIES



- Energy
- Windmills
- Public illumination
- Waterharvesting

E-GOVERNMENT

GIS, ICT, online shared services,...

COMMUNICATION & PARTICIPATION

Involving stakeholders and citizens

PROCESS- AND PROJECT DIRECTOR

Guiding municipalities and stakeholders through complex planning-processes, decision-making and execution of projects

EXAMPLES

**Without
Legal body**

INFORMAL COOPERATION

France	SIVU for 1 subject e.g. River protection
Germany	Kommunale Arbeitsgemeinschaft e.g. for Planning
The Netherlands	Common body Several types of voluntary cooperation
Flanders, Belgium	Interlocal cooperations Large range of subjects e.g. Libraries, housing, environment,....

The Netherlands



Objective:

- to provide public services to inhabitants in the most efficient way
- to realize an optimal management
- to preserve own identity and democratic legitimized governance

Intensive cooperation of
3 municipalities
as an alternative for fusion

3 municipalities seen as an
enterprise:

Local Executives & staff formulate
tasks for the BEL-team

BEL-team executes task

BEL-staff provided by municipalities

The Netherlands

HOST - Cooperation model

HOST-municipality delivers services to guest municipalities

Services: staff of the HOST-municipality

Services are delivered on the basis of a contract

Follow up by Steering Group and meetings of Executives



Flanders, Belgium



**Informal cooperation
WESTHOEKOVERLEG**

18 Municipalities

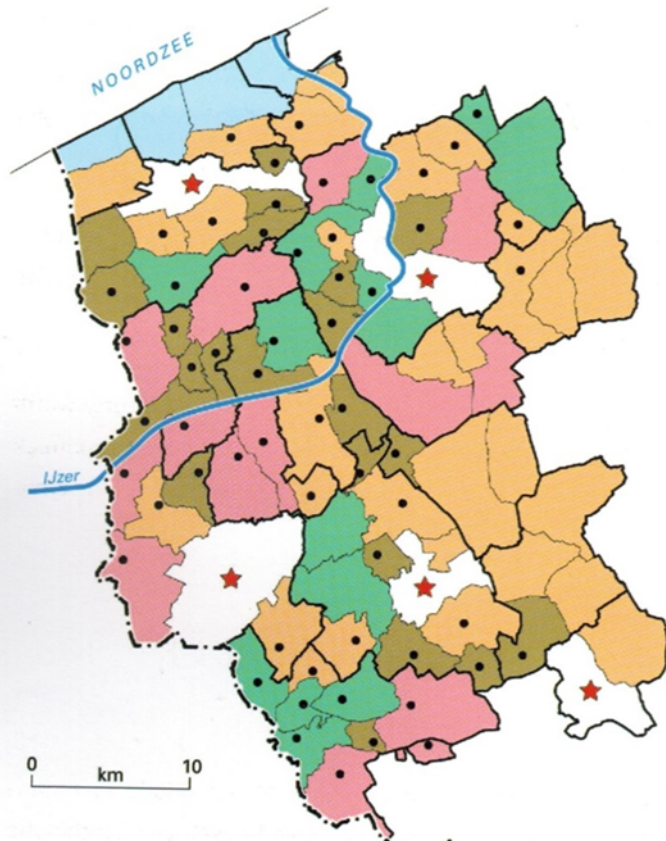
**Conference of Lord Mayors
Daily Management
Staff: 2 experts**

**Cooperation by contract
To be renewed every 6 years**

18 Municipalities

88 Villages pagasts

112 empty churches.... Liveability study 58 local centers
In rural area



Research 1997

Although shrinking, in some places new families settle down (quality of life, mobility,...)

Centers with dynamics by opportunities: 17
Relatively close to small towns, jobs,...



Centers with dynamics by attractiveness: 10
Idyllic to live (landscape, nature, peace,...)



Stagnating centers: 21
Unfavourable conditions
(environment, distance,...)

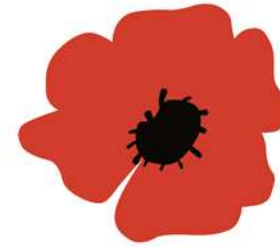


Stagnating historical centers: 11
Loss of identity, abandoned buildings,...



OPPORTUNITIES

Flanders'Fields: War tourism



2014-18

Flanders Fields

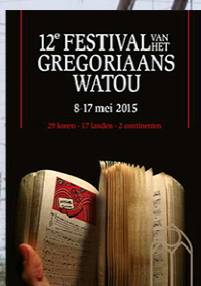
www.flandersfields1418.com



+ 200 Military cemeteries

OPPORTUNITIES

Local products
Beer, cheese, culture,...



Penitentiary procession

IMC Westhoekoverleg

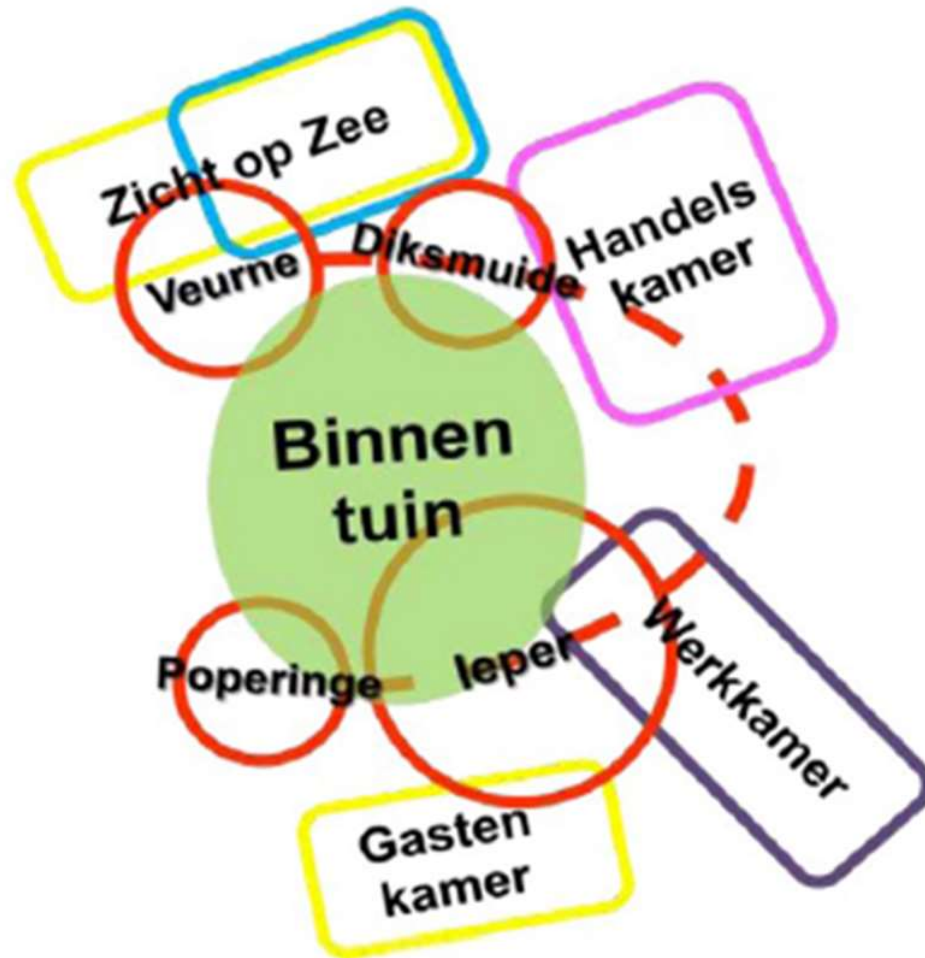


Aim

- To strengthen this sub-region and its municipalities
- To support each other in all kind of fields
- To have one strong voice in the relation to higher levels

Core-business and key issues

- To face new challenges (reforms imposed by the State)
- To tackle new opportunities
- To face growing financial problems, management problems
- To share tasks, services, staff
- To develop differentiated cooperation strategies
(average = 70 cooperations/municipality)
- To coordinate cooperation and avoid overlap



‘A house with many rooms’

**STRATEGY for
Regional development**

=

Unity and diversity

**Bring together all
Stakeholders**

**Strengthen the internal
diversity**

Invest in local strengths

Benefits Latvia ?

Examples prove **benefits** of intermunicipal cooperation

In scale operations seem to be inevitable

Discussion raises: **Fusions or more IMC**

Fusions will create a larger distance between
decision-makers and population

IMC stimulates the shift from 'government to governance'

IMC is based on more communication and networking

IMC therefore seems to be more 'democratic'

Paldies !

