



The representativeness of farmers in Walloon Rural Network (WRN)

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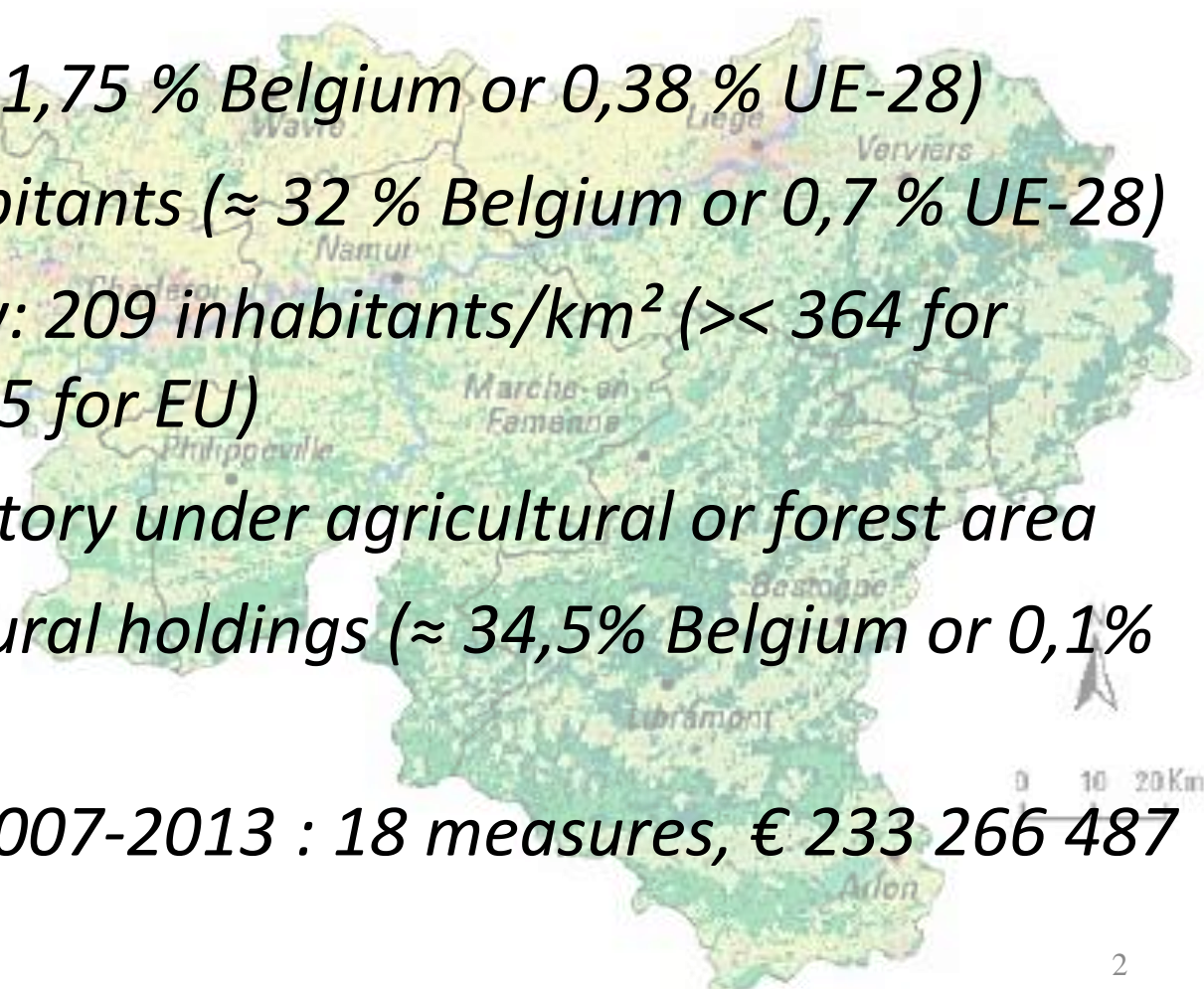
Connecting Rural Europe – 2 June 2014



Wallonia : few figures

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- 16 844 km² (\approx 51,75 % Belgium or 0,38 % UE-28)
- 3 572 388 inhabitants (\approx 32 % Belgium or 0,7 % UE-28)
- Average density: 209 inhabitants/km² ($>$ < 364 for Belgium and 115 for EU)
- 75% of the territory under agricultural or forest area
- 13 301 agricultural holdings (\approx 34,5% Belgium or 0,1% UE-27)
- RDP Wallonia 2007-2013 : 18 measures, € 233 266 487 (EAFRD)





Me, the Walloon Federation of Farming (FWA) and the WRN

FWA

- *Agronomist*
- *Advisor at FWA Advisory Service Unit on topics as: rural development support to installation and investments, organic farming, environment and management*
- *Member of the Permanent Commission of the Walloon Rural Network (WRN)*
- *Participation in many working groups*
- *Participation to a prospective exercise on the future of Walloon rural areas towards 2040.*



The prospective exercise

FWA

- *Creating a multi-stakeholder working group*
- *Supervision by experts*
- **Objectives :**
 - *Clarify the major issues of tomorrow for the Walloon rural areas*
 - *Contribute to place them within the regional land planning/management frameworks*
 - *Enable proactive participation in the WRN for the preparation of the walloon RDP 2014-2020*

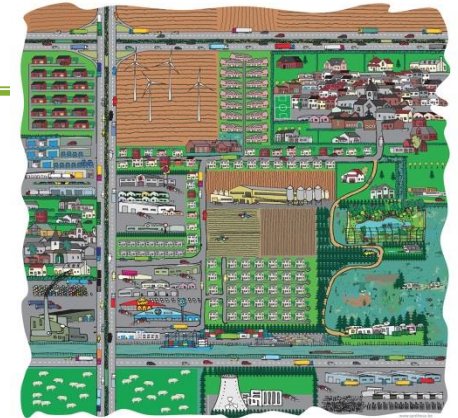
LES EXPERTS DU RWDR (HEZ MADAME IRMA)





The prospective exercise

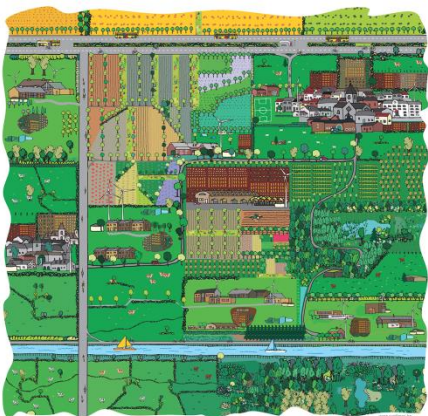
FWA

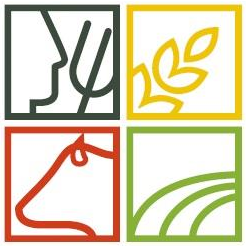


Method of work :

- *Define the object of the exercise (system and factors)*
- *Build an information base (hearing of experts)*
- *Identify subsystems and build micro-scenarios*
- *Assemble the micro-scenarios to make global scenarios*

Result : 4 scenarios with 2 key variables and identification of key issues





The prospective exercise

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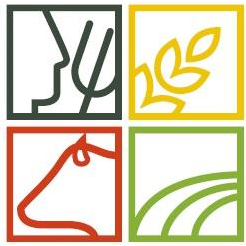
Interest for this exercise :

- *Knowledge Building*
- *Open-mindedness*
- *Importance of agriculture*



But requiring :

- *Investment in time and energy*
- *Put aside the interests of the organization*
- *Share knowledge*



Impacts of WRN work

FWA



- *Contacts / Resource people*
- *Highlighting existing, yet unknown initiatives in Wallonia*
- *Greater “transversality”*
- *Use results in negotiations with public authorities and with our farmer members*
- *Use of best practices as a starting point for new policies or new measures*
- *Contact with ENRD through the Advisory Group on rural Development and COPA-COGECA*





Future of WRN

FWA

- *More case studies, examples of good practice from other Member States*
- *Analysis of the implementation of measures in other programmes*
- *More involvement of stakeholders in the field*
- *Strengthen exchanges with other MS via the ENRD*
- *Difficulty to capture the thematic work of the ENRD across Walloon*
- *Language barrier, especially for farmers*



Walloon Federation of Farming
By farmers, for farmers

FWA

Thanks for your attention

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