



Belgian One  
Health Network

# BEOH and the Green Deal

Results from the preparatory workshop 9/9  
Recommendations climate change

Sofie De Broe



## *Content*

1. Significance of topic in BE
2. Composition of the workshop participants
3. Highlights of intermediate steps – What do ‘others’ need to be aware of?
4. Final conclusions/thematic recommendations.



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**GLASGOW**

**COP26**



## *Significance of topic in BE – climate resilience*

### **EU**

Tackling climate change is at the core of the European Green Deal

In doing so, the EU is taking the lead in bringing the world to a climate neutral future

Even respecting the Glasgow Agreement\* temperature goals will not protect ecosystems, communities and businesses against the impacts of climate change

### **Reality**

Climate adaptation but need for mitigation (minimising possible impacts)

Hot dry summers-flooding

### **Politics**

Coordination challenges: Belgian federal system: climate is lying with different regional authorities

Belgian Climate Centre, Thomas Dermine



## *Glasgow*

1. The aim is still to keep global warming below 1.5 degrees, but the concrete measures the countries must take to achieve this are postponed until next year.
2. For the first time, the final declaration states that fossil fuels are responsible for global warming. The use of coal is to be phased out. At the last minute, however, the wording to 'phase out' the use of polluting coal-fired power stations was toned down to 'reduce'. Fossil fuel subsidies will also be phased out.
3. Rich countries will give more money to developing countries to arm themselves against climate change and to make the switch to green energy. Nothing about a climate damage fund ended up in the agreement, to the anger of the poor countries.
4. Better agreements have been made about the trade in emission rights.



## *Composition of the workshop participants*

- Ministry Public Health
- National Crisis centre
- Academia
- Sciensano
- Insurance
- 1 climate expert



## *Looking at climate change from your area of expertise: what do the others need to be aware of?*

- Climate adaptation *and mitigation* plan
- Put a price on natural capital
- Work together between the BE communities and countries
- Link between politics, policy and science
- Transdisciplinary approach into practice
- Inclusivity for citizens (participatory approach), listen those experiencing change
- Insurance part of the solution for protecting infrastructures
- Research/Risk analysis using new data and methods--lack of data in order to do so?
- Clear communication to population of unpopular message
- Action plans citizens: push people out of the comfort zone
- Make measures FAIR



## *Possible ways towards a Green Deal BE-One Health world?*

- GOVERNANCE
  - One plan and one minister in charge
  - Mitigation and adaptation plans and goals
  - Climate experts!
  - Implement existing and new technologies
  - Protect infrastructures—risk analysis-insurance
- EDUCATION and RESEARCH
  - Climate adaptation/mitigation (through STEM) initiatives in schools part of curricula
  - Life long education on One Health climate change
  - Systemic/holistic teaching
  - Use of data/big data/AI to tackle the climate/energy challenge
  - Governance (of data) allowing One Health embedded in climate research





## *Final and thematic recommendations*

- Need for 1 national adaptation and mitigation plan with smart objectives
- Support individual & household-level climate action plans
- Implement existing technologies
- Expert involvement in Climate Crisis
- Ensure FAIRness in the climate action plans
- Protection measures for critical infrastructures (mobility, energy)
- BEOH to contribute to Belgian Climate Centre
- Data driven research and AI prioritized in One Health climate research---energy problem!
- (secondary) education include climate adaptation and mitigation nudging
- Advocate for strengthening the capacity of National Public Health Institutes and others to contribute effectively to climate and biodiversity research, policies and action
- Adopt systemic approaches in research on health impacts of climate change



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Thanks for your attention