1. IGNACE RONSE, DGD AND GEERT LALEMAN, ITM
2. KAREL GYSELINCK, BTC AND JESSICA MARTINI, ECOLE DE SANTÉ PUBLIQUE ULB
3. REGIONAL SEMINAR IN KINSHASA ON PALLIATIVE CARE
4. REGIONAL SEMINAR IN KINSHASA ON PALLIATIVE CARE
5. JOINT MEETING STEERING COMMITTEE AND CHAIRS WORKING GROUPS
6. SCREENSHOT VIDEO HEALTH AND TRADE AGREEMENTS BY WORKING GROUP SOCIAL DETERMINANTS
Pencil and gum

‘Le nouveau rapport annuel de Be-cause Health est arrivé!’
Just as the annual ring of trees
a witness
a logbook
inevitable off-spring of the logframe

Leaner every year
Less is more
More colourful
more accountable
more ISO-proof
Donor-darling

May I have your points please
and even more your money
your confidence, your support

A fresh new painting
Static, flat, framed, fixed, varnished,
visual, virtual
Curious searching minds
scratching the varnish
‘turning to the dark side’
layer by layer
unveiling the world of pencil and gum
ever changing, ex-changing
experiences, no dogmas
friction causing heat
and warmth
Beyond framing logic
shaping minds
reality

‘Le nouveau rapport annuel de Be-cause Health est arrivé!’
Just as the early bird after winter
announcing spring
a new cycle
Let’s start afresh
Let’s start pencilling and gumming again

Karel Gyselinck
President Be-cause health
Be-cause health is a pluralistic open platform, providing a place for exchange and capitalisation of technical knowledge and scientific evidence on international health and development cooperation and its application in the field. Be-cause health assures a more effective Belgian contribution to global health policies and the policy debate, based on the right to health & health care for all, and on the acceptance of reality as a complex, adaptive system influenced by multiple determinants. The platform stimulates mutual trust, understanding and cooperation between all stakeholders involved in Belgian development cooperation. It strengthens the transformational competences of its members such as flexibility, teamwork and leadership.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES 2014-2016

1. **BE-CAUSE HEALTH IS AN EFFICIENT AND DYNAMIC NETWORK, REPRESENTATIVE OF BELGIAN ACTORS ACTIVE IN THE FIELD OF INTERNATIONAL HEALTH.**

2. **THE BELGIAN ACTORS CONTRIBUTE EFFECTIVELY TO THE INTERNATIONAL POLICY OF BELGIUM AND TO INTERNATIONAL POLICIES RELATED TO HEALTH.**

3. **BE-CAUSE HEALTH NOT ONLY ASSURES A GOOD DIFFUSION AND EXCHANGE OF KNOWLEDGE AND GOOD PRACTICES AMONG ITS MEMBERS, BUT ALSO ASSURES A CAPITALISATION OF EXPERIENCES IN THE FIELD.**

4. **BE-CAUSE HEALTH PROMOTES COMPLEMENTARITY, SYNERGY AND COLLABORATION AMONG BELGIAN ACTORS INVOLVED IN INTERNATIONAL HEALTH AND OTHER NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL HEALTH NETWORKS.**
12 February | Roundtable
Health System Strengthening in Fragile Settings

An initiative of the Institute of Tropical Medicine co-organized by the Ministry of Development Cooperation and Because Health, focusing on a number of questions that still remain when working in fragile settings. Participants discussed ways to operationalize health systems strengthening in fragile settings, an innovative “arena” framework, hands-on approaches and concluded with some key reflections and recommendations. (The full report is available on www.be-causehealth.be.)

11 June | Meeting Minister de Croo

A delegation of Be-cause health had a meeting with the cabinet of the Minister for Development Cooperation De Croo. On the one hand to introduce the platform and its working groups, on the other hand to ask for attention for some specific topics. Also the recommendations of the fragile settings workshop were handed over.

8 October | Workshop
Non-Communicable Diseases

An initiative organized jointly by the Institute of Tropical Medicine, Be-cause health and the Université Catholique de Louvain, where participants discussed current challenges and opportunities regarding NCD in low- and middle-income countries in general and related to the Belgian cooperation policy specifically. The aim of this workshop was indeed to also provide input in the new Belgian policy note on health. (The full report is available on www.be-causehealth.be.)
Because health gives me the legitimacy to discuss health issues within my own organization. It offers me overriding arguments to bring everyone to terms when discussing health.

- Christian de Clippele, Louvain Cooperation

17 to 19 September | Regional Seminar DRC
Palliative care
Be-cause health supported IYAD in the organisation of the second international congress on palliative care in Kinshasa, DRC, September 17th - 19th. The congress aimed at sensitising health care workers and policy makers about the problem of palliative care in DRC and at mobilising different stakeholders in integrating palliative care in different care settings.

6 to 10 September | ECTMIH 2015
Sessions on Mental Health & Complexity
Be-cause health participated actively in this European Congress in Basel, by organising two parallel sessions related to working groups of Be-cause health. The sessions covered new topics usually not integrated in the programme and the expertise shared was appreciated by the participants. It also created visibility for the Be-cause health network and the work of Belgian actors & their partners in the field of international health. The next ECTMIH conference will be organised by ITM in Antwerp in October 2017.
Be-cause health matters
Reflections on 10 years of existence

Be-cause health celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2014. Karel Gyselinck, President of Be-cause health, used that opportunity to reflect on the aim and work of the platform. But his reflections go beyond the here and now. He also looks ahead and reflects upon 3 major challenges Be-cause health will have to take on in the coming years.
HIGHLIGHTS
WORKING GROUPS

The bulk of the reflection on health in development cooperation and the organisation of activities is taking place in the working groups of Be-cause health. Thanks to the input of its active members and the voluntary contribution of many experts.

In 2015 the Belgian development cooperation decided to review its Policy Notes on The Right to Health & Health Care and the ones on Sexual & Reproductive Health & Rights and the Fight against HIV/AIDS. With the wish to do this in a participatory way and have input from as many Belgian experts as possible, most of the working groups organised a reflection on the topics at hand and provided feedback & advice on the texts.

Non-Communicable Diseases
Chair: Jessica Martini, Ecole de Santé Publique ULB

This working group co-organised the workshop on Non-Communicable Diseases of the 8th of October (see above). They also gave expert advice on the protocol for action research of BTC Benin and organised an internal reflection on the topics of educating patients, mental health and primary health care.

Complexity
Chair: Anne Fromont, Ecole de Santé Publique ULB
Co-chair: Vicente Pardo, Aedes

The activities of this working group mainly focused on the organisation of a one-day workshop with COTA and BTC on Change in Complex Environments. This workshop on November 10th focused on two goals: to inform Belgian stakeholders on the importance of taking into account complexity issues in projects and to discuss concrete actions and possibilities for collaboration to tackle complexity. The day proofed successful in engaging many external participants in a rich debate. The group will organise a follow up in 2016.
**HIGHLIGHTS**

**WORKING GROUPS**

**Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights**  
*Chair: Dirk Van Braeckel, ICRH*

On November 18th the members of this working group organised a workshop entitled ‘Agenda 2030: Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in the Sustainable Development Goals’. Invited speakers from the South gave their view on SRHR in the SDGs, its targets and indicators. The session focused on the implications of the new SDG framework for Belgium’s Development Cooperation. The working group also started the production of fact sheets on young people, the linkages between SRHR & HIV and gender. These will all be published in 2016.

"*The best ideas emerge when challenged by others and Because health offers the opportunity to do so*"

- Elies Van Belle, Memisa

**Social Determinants of Health**  
*Chair: Liesbet Vangeel, FOS*

In close cooperation with the Action Platform on Health & Solidarity three policy briefs were produced, covering the following themes: Access to Medicines, Decent work and Trade Agreements & Universal Health Coverage. The group provided input for the NGO campaign on social protection, organised a workshop on the linkages between Trade & Investment Agreements and health and, on top of that, produced a short video to show in an original and accessible way the impact of trade agreements on the health of people in the South.

**Other working groups:**

**Human Resources for Health**  
*Chair: Stefaan Van Bastelaere, BTC*

The ‘Health Workers 4 All’ project was finalized in 2015. Members of the working group have signed the Call to Action addressed to Belgian and European decision makers, to advocate for the implementation of the WHO Code of Practice with regard to the recruitment of health personnel.

**Access to Quality Medicines**  
*Chair: Tine Demeulenaere, Damiaanactie*

The working group contributed to the DGD survey on medicines in view of the preparation of guidelines of Belgian Development Cooperation on quality assurance of medicines.

**DR Congo**  
*Chair: Ndudi Phasi, Benelux Afrocenter*

**People Centred Care**  
*Chair: Valéria Campos da Silveira, ITM*
# BUDGET

## REVENUES

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<th>Source</th>
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<td>Vlaanderen Internationaal</td>
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<td>Remainder 2014</td>
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<td>Participant fees seminars</td>
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## EXPENSES

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<td>Annual seminar</td>
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<td>Regional Seminar</td>
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<td><strong>€ 33.996,70</strong></td>
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## RESULT TO BE TRANSFERRED TO 2016

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<th><strong>€ 30.927,69</strong></th>
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## BALANCE 2015

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<td>Net assets</td>
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<td>Reserve FESTMIH</td>
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<td><strong>€ 54.126,49</strong></td>
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STEEERING COMMITTEE 2015

KAREL GYSELINCK - PRESIDENT, BELGIAN TECHNICAL COOPERATION
LUT JORIS - COORDINATOR, INSTITUTE FOR TROPICAL MEDICINE
STEVEN LAUWERS, HERA
JESSICA MARTINI, ECOLE DE SANTÉ PUBLIQUE - UNIVERSITÉ LIBRE DE BRUXELLES
ANSELME MUBENISHAYI KANANGA, IYAD
IGNACE RONSE, DIRECTORATE GENERAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION
ELIES VAN BELLE, MEMISA
SARA VAN BELLE, INSTITUTE FOR TROPICAL MEDICINE
DIRK VAN BRAECKEL, INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH
WIM VAN DE VOORDE, SENSOA

LISTED MEMBER AND OBSERVER ORGANISATIONS (DECEMBER 2015)

ACTION PLATFORM HEALTH & SOLIDARITY * AEDES - EUROPEAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT & HEALTH * AFRICA EUROPE FAITH AND JUSTICE NETWORK * AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL BELGIQUE FRANCOPHONE * ASSOCIATION BELGE DES PRATICIENS DE L’ART INFIRMIER * ASSOCIATION POUR LE RENFORCEMENT DE L’ENSEIGNEMENT ET DE L’APPRENTISAGE EN SANTÉ * BELGIAN DEVELOPMENT AGENCY * BELGIAN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION * BELGIAN MEDICAL STUDENTS ASSOCIATION * BENELUX AFRO CENTER * CAP SANTÉ * COOPAMI – RIZIV * CROIX ROUGE DE BELGIQUE FRANCOPHONE * DAMIEN FOUNDATION * DEPARTEMENT INTERNATIONAAL VLAANDEREN * ECOLE DE SANTÉ PUBLIQUE - ULB * FPS HEALTH, FOOD CHAIN SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT * FOS - SOCIALISTISCHE SOLIDARITEIT * FRACARITA * GAMS * HERA * HÉLÈNE DE BEIR FOUNDATION * INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH * INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION * INTERNATIONAL YOUTH ASSOCIATION FOR DEVELOPMENT * KBA - FONCABA * LA CHAINE DE L’ESPOIR - DE KETEN VAN HOOP * LIGHT FOR THE WORLD * LOUVAIN COOPÉRATION * LUMOS UZ LEUVEN * MÉDECINS DU MONDE * MEDICUS WITHOUT VACATION * MEMISA * MUTUALITÉS CHRÉTIENNES - CHRISTELIJKE MUTUALITEITEN * LE MONDE SELON LES FEMMES * OXFAM SOLIDARITÉ - SOLIDARITÉ * RETURN TO CARE * ROYAL ACADEMY FOR OVERSEAS SCIENCES * SENS OA * SOLENTRA * SOLIDARITÉ PROTESTANTE - PROTESTANTSE SOLIDARITEIT * SOS VILLAGES D’ENFANTS - SOS KINDERDORPEN * THIRD WORLD HEALTH AID * ULB COO- PÉRATION * VVOB * WORLD SOLIDARITY

Be-cause health is a member of FESTMIH and a partner of Medicus Mundi International.

Be-cause health is supported by:

CONTACT DETAILS:
Secretariat – Nationalestraat 155 – 2000 Antwerpen – Belgium becaushe@itg.be - www.be-causehealth.be - +32 (0)3 247 08 01
VU: LUT JORIS - NATIONALESTRAAT 155 - 2000 ANTWERPEN - LJORIS@ITG.BE - LAYOUT: PICTUREDBYUS.COM