

# POLIS

CITIES AND REGIONS FOR TRANSPORT INNOVATION

ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE

# 2023

LEUVEN, BELGIUM • 29-30 NOVEMBER 2023



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# Translation of the ambitious Flemish cycling vision to the local governments

Innovation in cooperation

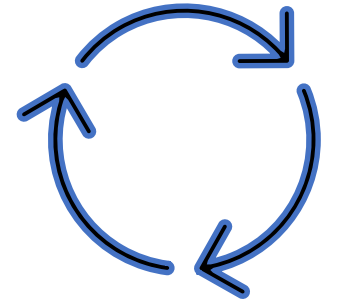
Sofie Van Campenhout  
Flemish government,  
department of Mobility & Public Works



# From cycling ambition to action plan & new governance

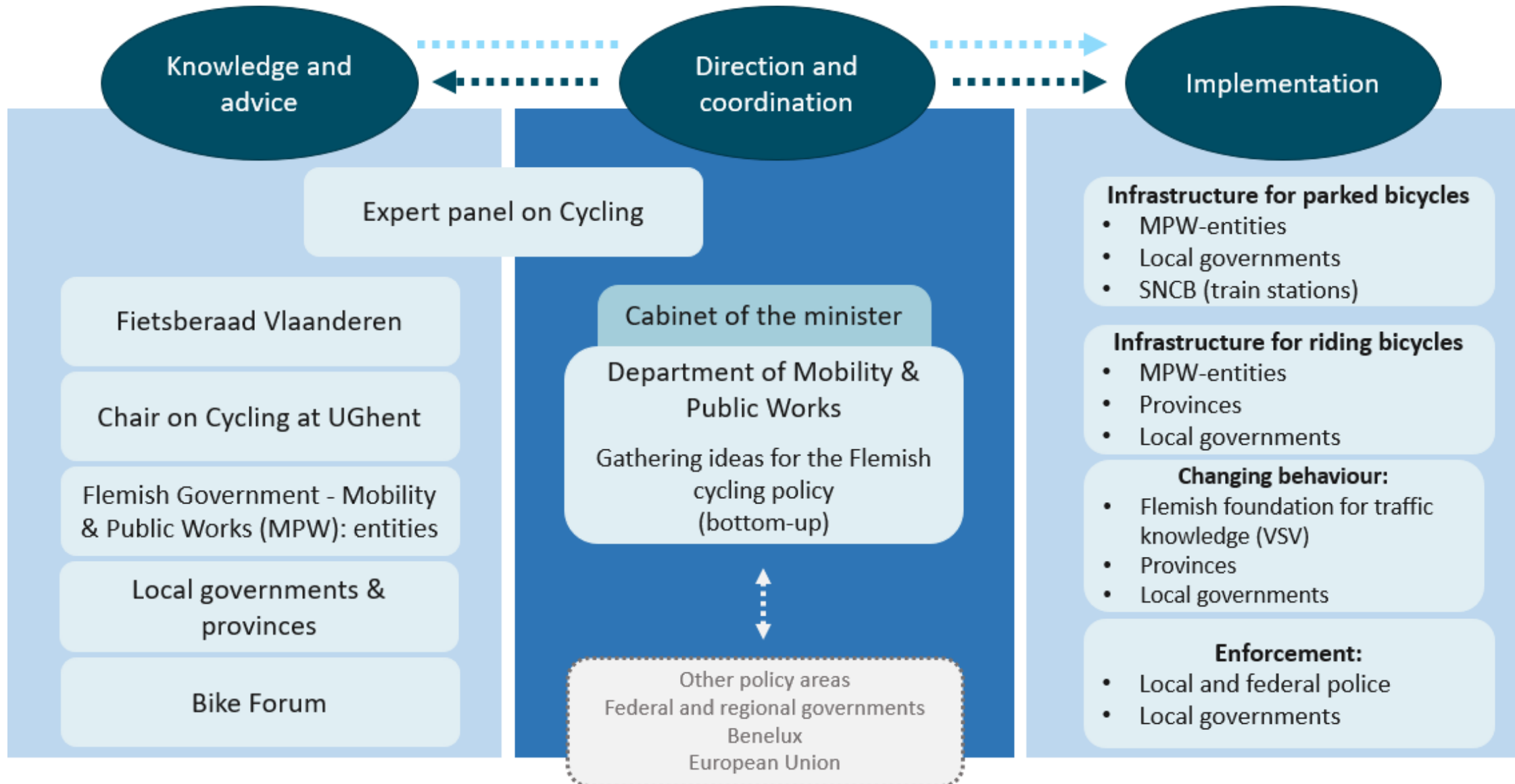
- Spring 2023: Flemish cycling ambition for 2040
  - 2 main objectives:
    - 1. more road safety**
    - 2. more cyclists**
- Different government levels and institutions contribute to reaching those ambitions
- fall/winter 2023: translating the ambition into
  - 1. A new governance on cycling policy**
  - 2. An action plan with concrete actions for several partners**

**COOPERATION**



**SUPPORT &  
COORDINATION**

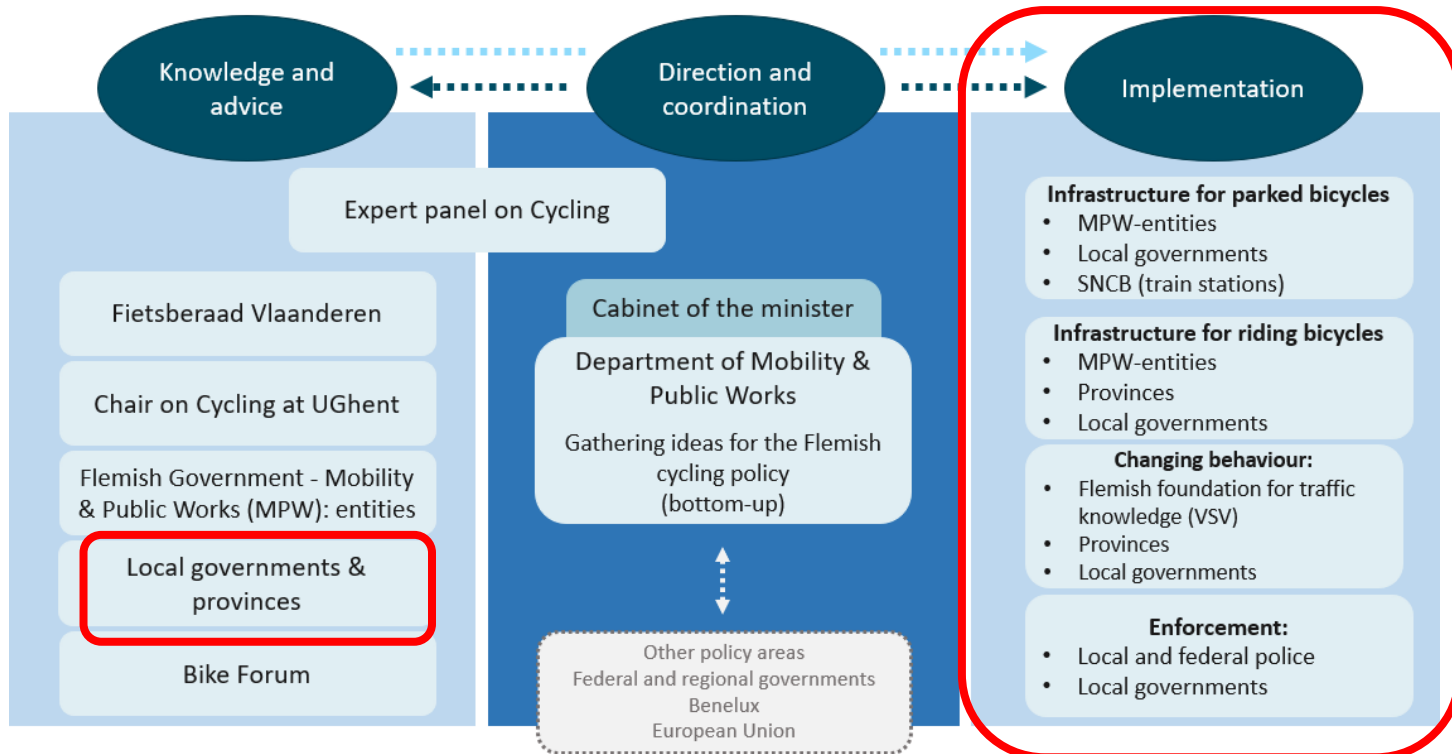
# From cycling ambition to new governance



# From cycling ambition to new governance

Local governments are crucial partners in 2 pillars

- KNOWLEDGE AND ADVICE
- IMPLEMENTATION (e.g. managing roads and 'Hoppin'-mobility nodes, bike parking)

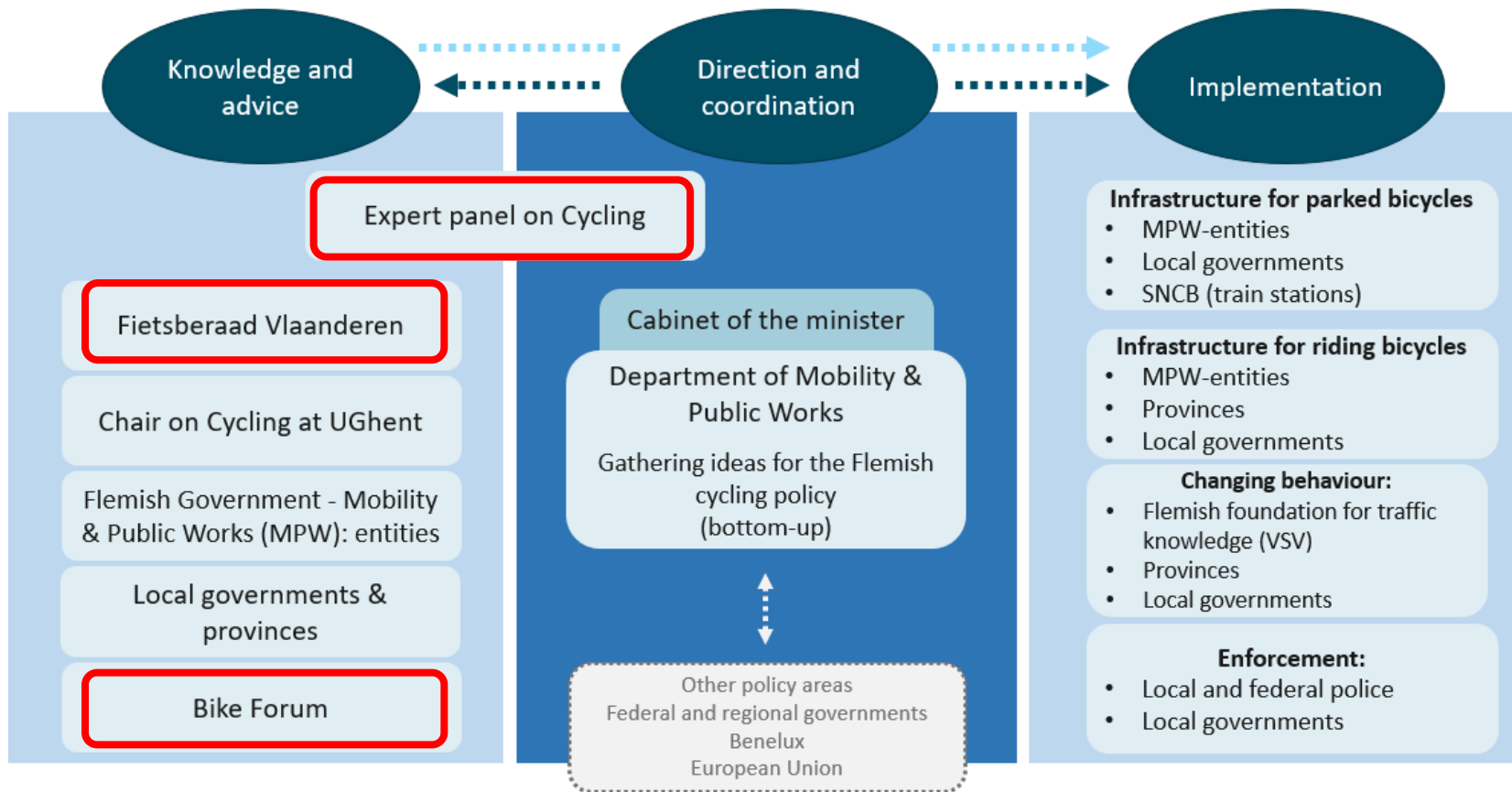


→ support local governments in both pillars

# From cycling ambition to new governance

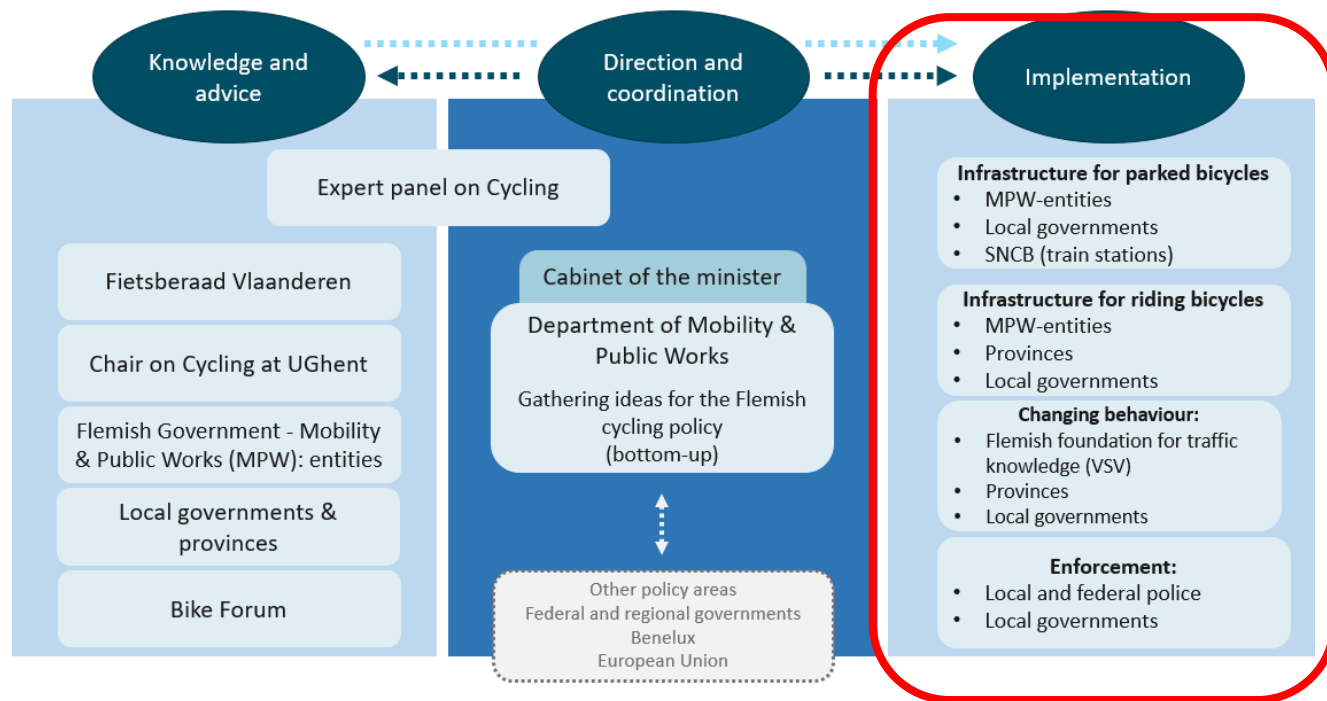
KNOWLEDGE AND ADVICE: give local authorities a louder voice in the governance structure:

- Member of the expert panel in cycling
- Shared knowledge institute for the region and local governments: 'Fietsberaad Vlaanderen'
- Member of the Bike Forum
- Part of 15 transport region councils



**BOTTOM-UP POLICY**

# From cycling ambition to new governance



## IMPLEMENTATION:

1. Local authorities are part of a transport region council (TRC)  
→ different government levels and institutions work together on sustainable mobility on a regional scale.

## 2. Concrete support actions

- Subsidies and subsidy guide
- Awareness campaigns
- ...

# From cycling ambition to action plan

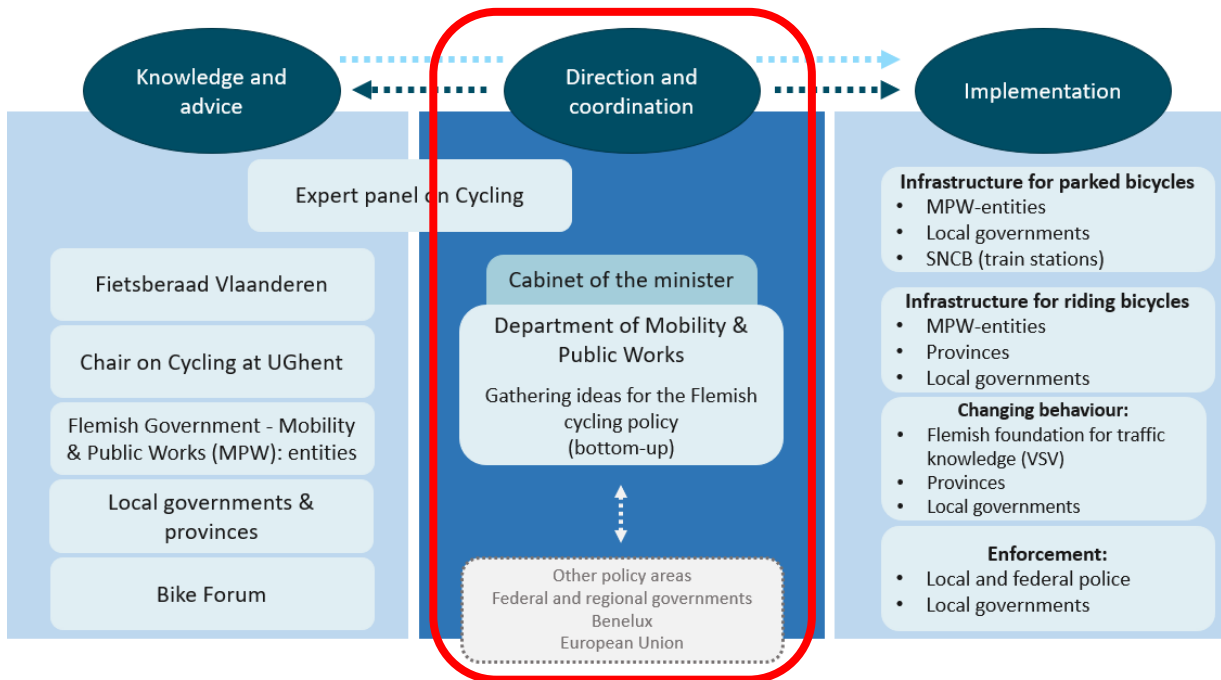
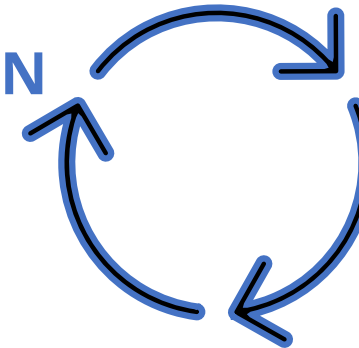
2 main objectives:

1. more road safety
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COOPERATION

SUPPORT &  
COORDINATION

ACTIONS



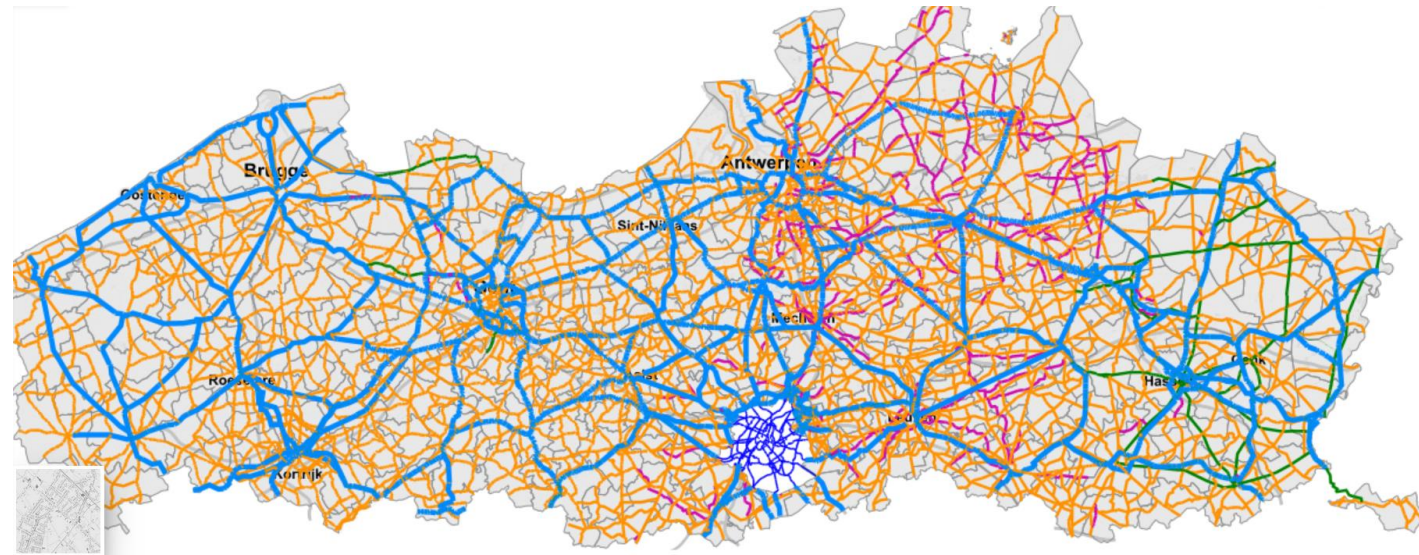
CENTRAL PILLAR = direction and coordination  
→ TOOLS, developed by and with the Flemish government to SUPPORT local governments regarding their cycling policy

- to facilitate cooperation
- to reach common objectives (implementation)



# From cycling ambition to action plan – some tools

- Flemish network of cycle highways:  
<https://www.vlaanderen.be/fietsnelwegen-in-vlaanderen>
- Subsidies for local governments on cycling infrastructure, nodes, ...
- Subsidy guide (online tool):  
<https://mow.vlaanderen.be/fietssubsidiewijzer>



Basisbereikbaarheid

## Fietssubsidiewijzer

Betreft het de aanleg van een kunstwerk (tunnel of brug)?

- Ja  
 Nee

Herstarten

Stap terug

3

Betreft het een ingreep om de fietsinfrastructuur conform te maken?

Ja

2

Betreft het fietsinfrastructuur op het BFF?

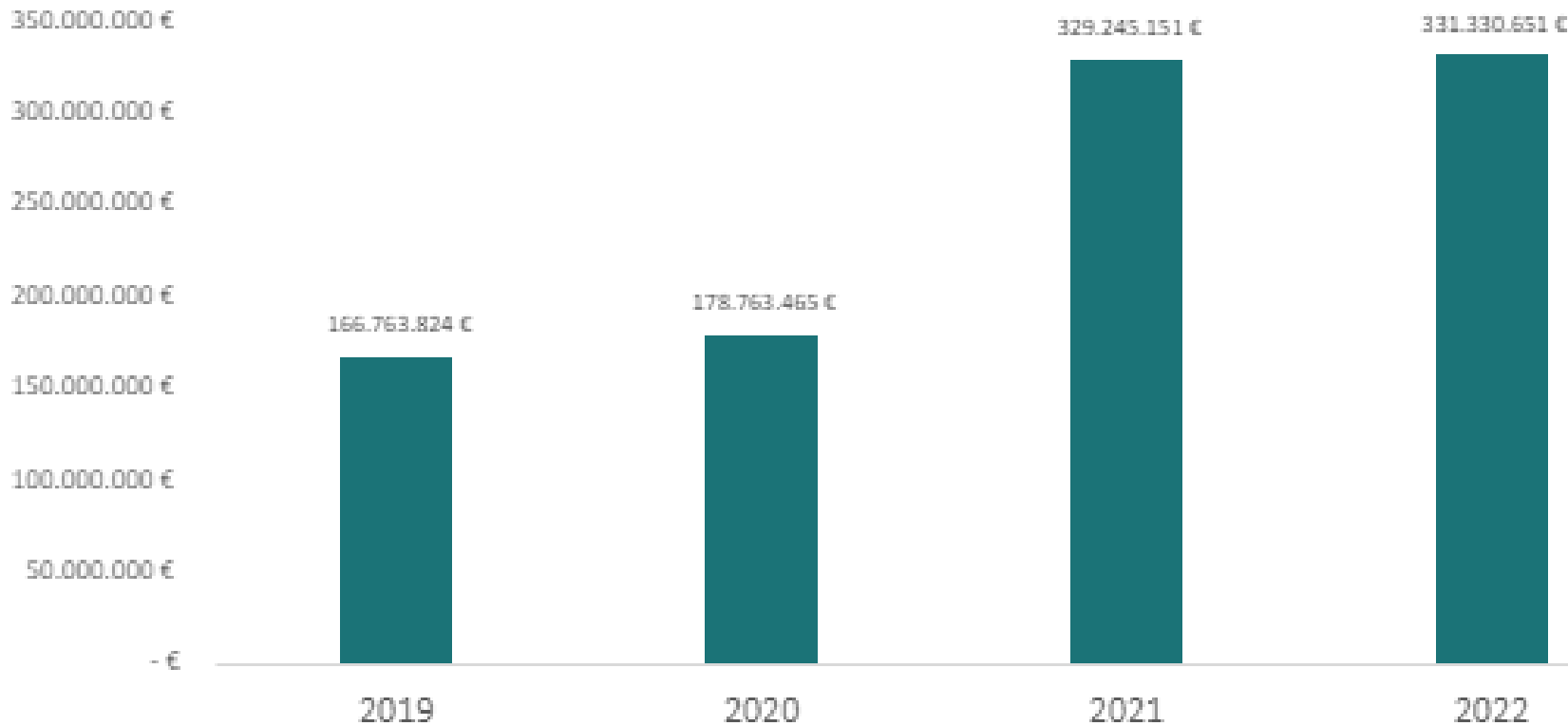
Ja

# From cycling ambition to action plan – some tools

- Knowledge sharing between government levels in close cooperation with Fietsberaad, the Flemish knowledge institute on cycling.  
<https://fietsberaad.be/>
- Awareness creation/campaigns, e.g. the election of the ‘Bicycle city/bicycle municipality’: a promotional campaign we have every 2 years to stimulate local governments in their cycling policy (next election spring of 2024). In close cooperation with ‘VSV’, the Flemish Foundation for Traffic Knowledge.



# What we've already achieved



## Common investments in cycling infrastructure increased

- The investments in cycling infrastructure from the Flemish government has doubled from 166 million euro in 2019 to 331 million euro in 2022.
- Local governments also invest more in cycling

This results in more cyclists: based on the results of the travel behavior research we see a modal share of 18% for cycling in 2022, whereas in 2019 the modal share of cycling in Flanders was 14%.



# What we've already achieved

- Working together in the **regional transport councils** (15 TRC's)
- **Fietsberaad** as a knowledge institute for the Flemish government **AND** local governments (cooperation agreement between the department of MPW and 'VVSG', the association of Flemish cities and municipalities)



**Effective cycling policy is the result of all governments working together!**

**Innovation in cooperation !**



## SAVE THE DATE

**High-Level EU Cycling Conference – Taking the European Declaration on Cycling to the next level**

**Flemish Minister of Mobility and Public Works & Flemish department of Mobility and Public Works**

**29 - 30 January 2024 Hasselt, Belgium**

Panel debates & break-out sessions on cycling policies, road safety and cycling infrastructure and investments and the possibility to visit some of the Flemish cycling realisations in the area.

<https://www.vlaanderen.be/mobiliteit-en-openbare-werken/flanders-together-in-motion/high-level-eu-cycling-conference-taking-the-european-declaration-on-cycling-to-the-next-level>



**Thank you for  
your attention!**



## For information:

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<https://www.vlaanderen.be/mobiliteit-en-openbare-werken/te-voet-fiets-bromfiets>