



The benefits of transnational cooperation

The REFRAME partners represent food networks already in place and play a coordinating and supporting role in short food chains. However similar in nature, there are differences between them. These differences refer to the scope and size of the networks (local, regional), volumes of produce involved, the level and nature of cooperation between supply and demand in the region, demand side characteristics (individual or corporate/institutional consumers) and focus on innovation and business development. All partner networks include an education organisation.

Given these differences, all partners are keen to move forward and to make their networks important contributors to improved regional innovation on the basis of the project's two innovative strands, i.e.

1. regional scope
2. cooperative arrangements linking urban demand to rural supply in a B2B market

Consequently, transnational cooperation will be needed to jointly develop, pilot and monitor the coherent set of support measures REFRAME will deliver.

REFRAME is based on

- 1. Transnational development:** The RFF is an innovative concept that needs to be developed in operational detail. Every partner has experience in one or more elements and aspects of a RFF. By pooling this knowhow, every partner will arrive at the required position to launch its Regional Food Deal. We have visualised this in a table attached to this application. The table also illustrates which key aspects are currently not available in the partnership and thus will be developed jointly.
- 2. Transnational learning:** The REFRAME learning network (WP 4) provides education and training programs for the stakeholders within each regional pilot. These education programs will be developed and delivered in a transnational team stemming from the educational organisations in every partner network. The training and support portfolio will entail general modules that will be provided by every partner in its own region. The development and delivery of ca. 13 specific modules will be in the hands of those centres that are best equipped to do so. Together they are REFRAME's transnational network of centres of expertise.
- 3. Transnational implementation:** Each pilot will have its own implementation team but will be supported by the REFRAME transnational expert & support team with seasoned experts on each step in the RFF-roadmap according to their specific expertise/experience. To give an indication of every partner's 'trump card' in transnational implementation support:
 - NL – Data mapping & regional cooperative arrangements
 - DK – Regional branding & waste management
 - DE – Awareness & communication
 - SE – Urban food policies and regional sourcing
 - BE – Smart strategies (a.o. logistic planning, packaging)
- 4. Transnational staffing and financing:** REFRAME has 4 work packages distributed among the partner networks. All partners are involved in all the work packages. Part of the budget of each work package is covered by a transnational pool of resources. For these shared costs each partner region has set aside an amount of euro 50.000 for transnational management and 40.000 for the transnational communication in the 'experts' budget line, as well as euro 10.000 for transnational travel and accommodation. For Regional Cooperative Westerkwartier (NL) the transnational management costs are included in its staff costs.