

The importance of expert knowledge in geographical names for the determination and processing of bilingual place names in Brussels

Jeanne Henrion



Overview



- Introduction : The Belgian institutional and linguistic context
- Contribution of the National Geographical Institute to the standardization of Geographical names
- The Belgian toponymical database and its update
- The special case of updating the toponyms of the Brussels-Capital Region
- Conclusion

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Introduction : The Belgian institutional and linguistic context



The federal State of Belgium is divided into

■ 3 Communities :

- The French Community (« Communauté française »)
- The Flemish Community (« Vlaamse Gemeenschap »)
- The German-speaking Community (« Deutsch-sprachige Gemeinschaft »)

■ 3 Regions:

- The Flemish Region (« Vlaams Gewest »)
- The Brussels Region (in French « Région bruxelloise », in Dutch (« Brussels Gewest »))
- The Walloon Region (« Région wallonne »)

Introduction : The Belgian institutional and linguistic context



Official languages and linguistic regions:

- 3 official languages: Dutch, French and German
- 4 language areas



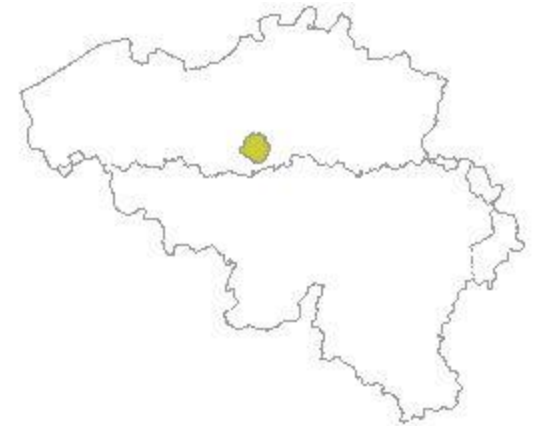
Dutch language area
(Nederlands taalgebied)



The French language area
(région de langue française)



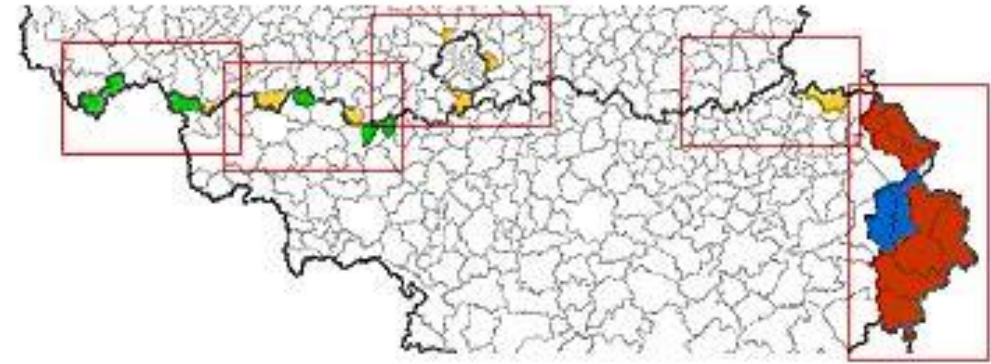
The German language area
(deutsches sprachgebiet)







The bilingual area of the
Brussels-Capital Region
(Région bilingue de
Bruxelles capitale / tweetalig
gebied Brussel-Hoofstad)

Introduction : The Belgian institutional and linguistic context

589 municipalities



-  French-speaking inhabitants of the Dutch language area
-  Dutch-speaking inhabitants of the French language area
-  German-speaking inhabitants of the French-speaking area
-  French-speaking inhabitants of the German language area

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Contribution of the National Geographical Institute to the standardization of Geographical names



■ How does NGI promote the standardization of geographical names?

- Methodology applied for gathering and treating data
- Use of the official spelling or the spelling recommended by the Royal Commission for Toponymy and Dialectology (RCTD)
- The provision of toponymical data through WMTS/WMS service, visualization and geolocalization tools



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The Belgian toponymical database and its update



Cartographic writings



Surveys

INSTITUT GÉOGRAPHIQUE NATIONAL
 Abbaye de la Cambra, 13
 1050 BRUXELLES
 Tel. (02) 648 64 80 Ext. 02

COMMUNE: *GEMBLoux*

Feuille N° *40/4 a 7 42/a 8* N° STATISTIQUE: *98.033* Formulaire A
 Date: *J* Page: *J*

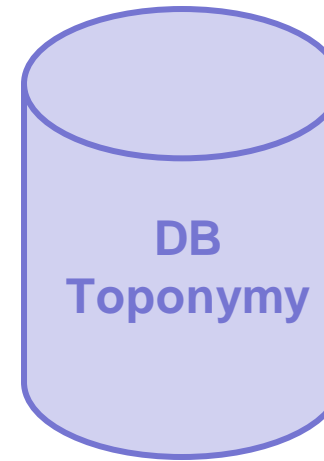
N°	Toponyme existant sur la carte actuelle	Orthographe d'usage dans la commune	GROUPE I						GROUPE II						Remarques			
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		13	14	15
30	<i>Fond'Enée</i>	<i>idm</i>																
31	<i>La Croixée</i>	<i>idm</i>																
32	<i>N-Dieu Buisson, Chap</i>	<i>idm</i>																
33	<i>Buisson St-Guibert</i>	<i>idm</i>																
34	<i>Coquelet</i>	<i>idm</i>																
35	<i>Trinité Approximative Fond'La Sirey</i>	<i>idm</i>																
36	<i>Chap. St-Hadite</i>	<i>idm</i>																
37	<i>La Vete</i>	<i>idm</i>																
38	<i>Chapelle Dieu</i>	<i>idm</i>																
39	<i>Chapelle Atrold</i>	<i>idm</i>																
40	<i>Le Bœru</i>	<i>idm</i>																
41	<i>Le Botin</i>	<i>idm</i>																
42	<i>A Touvent</i>	<i>idm</i>																
43	<i>Le Bâti de Fleury</i>	<i>idm</i>																
44	<i>Laubeton</i>	<i>idm</i>																
45	<i>La Large Eau</i>	<i>idm</i>																

Groupings



Enrichment

Verification



The Belgian toponymical database and its update



- Unique identifier
- Classification/ typology (inhabited or not inhabited locality, wood, church, castle, etc.)
- 1 to 3 possible names
 - **Language** (Dutch, French, German)
 - **Name Status** (Administrative, Used in the field, Administrative and used in the field, Other)
 - **Spelling Status** (Official, Approved, Rejected, Other (recommended by the service))
 - **Interest** (Mentioned in a tourist document , Mentioned in a street name, ...)
 - **Notoriousness** (Well Known, Known, not very well-known, ...)
 - **Name Source** (Municipality, the Official Journal of the Belgian State, ...)
 - **Different dates** (creation date, revision date, end date)
 - **Minimum and maximum scale of representation**
- Information to link toponyms to objects of other NGI Databases

The Belgian toponymical database and its update

- Geographical extent (polygon, line or point)



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The special case of updating the toponyms of the Brussels-Capital Region

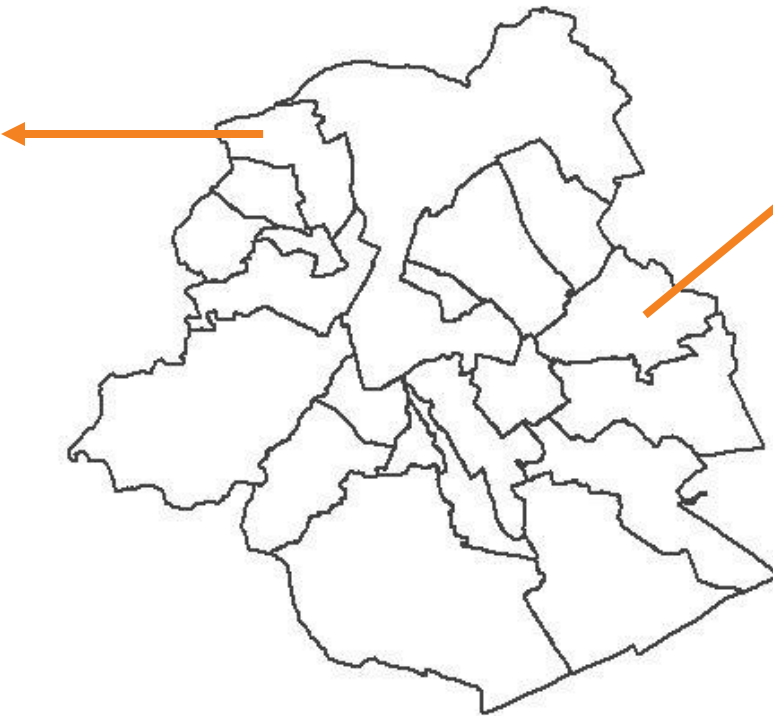


Bilingual region : 2 names, one in Dutch and one in French

Official names of administrative entities (municipalities)



Jette
Jette



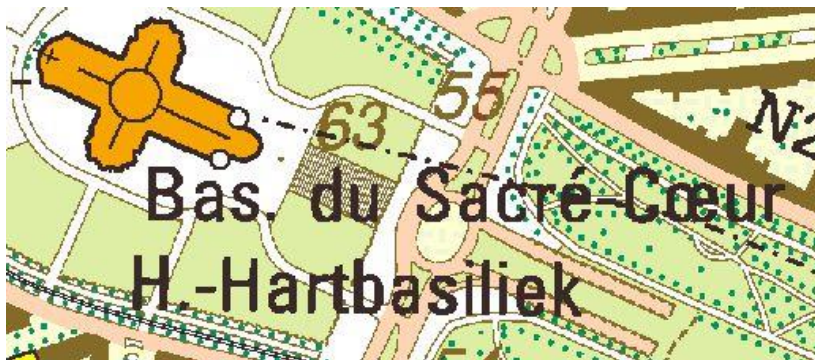
Sint-Lambrechts-Woluwe
Woluwe-Saint-Lambert



polygon Properties	
General	
Name	Value
tgid_linked	
name_place_1	Jette
short_name_1	
language_1	1
name_status_1	2
spelling_status_1	1
local_notoriousness_1	1
interest_1	
name_source_1	
scale_min_1	
scale_max_1	
start_date_1	
end_date_1	
modification_date_1	
revision_date_1	01/08/2009 00:00:00
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short_name_2	
language_2	2
name_status_2	2
spelling_status_2	1
local_notoriousness_2	1
interest_2	

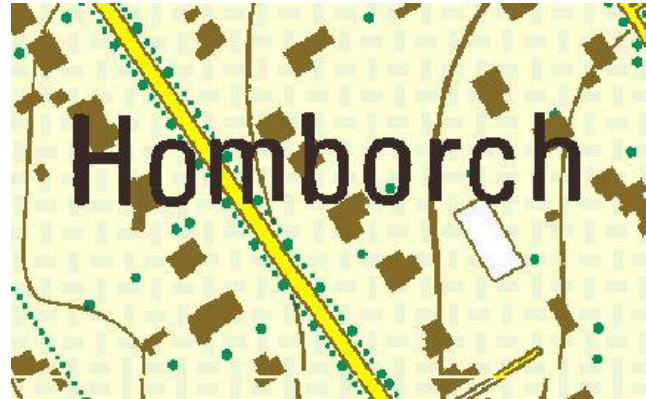
The special case of updating the toponyms of the Brussels-Capital Region

- Non official toponyms : 2 names, one in Dutch and one in French



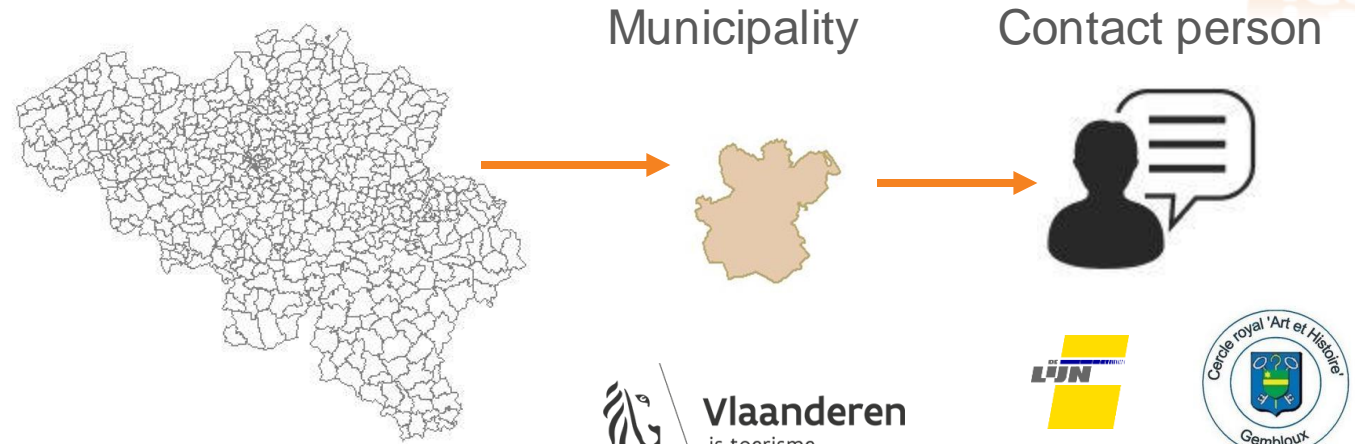
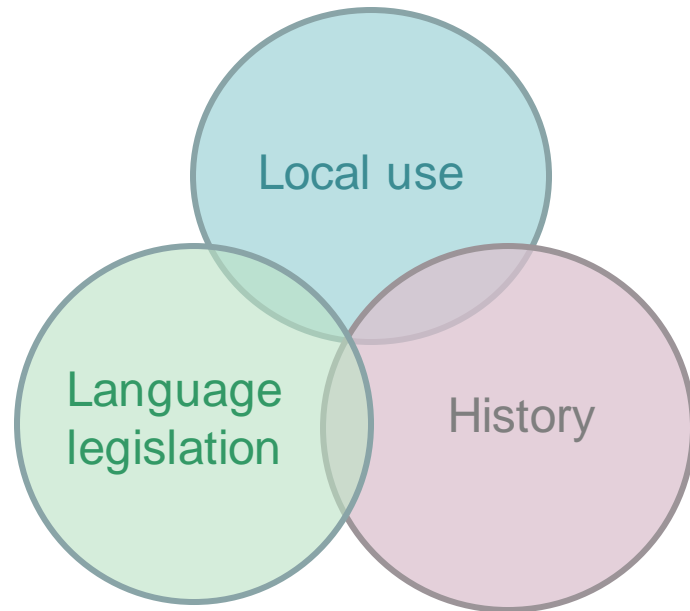
The special case of updating the toponyms of the Brussels-Capital Region

- Non official toponyms : only one name known, in Dutch or in French



The special case of updating the toponyms of the Brussels-Capital Region

A difficult task!



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Conclusion

