

BELGIUM

Decision-Making

Technical Advisory Group (NITAG) and the National Institute for Health and Disability Insurance (NIHDI).

Introducing a new vaccine: The NITAG makes national recommendations that must be implemented at the regional level. Regional governments must add to funds provided by the federal government to introduce a new vaccine, or the vaccine schedule must be simplified to make the budget available for newly introduced vaccines. For instance, an extra budget was made available in Flanders for the RSV vaccination of pregnant women. It needs to be clarified whether this will happen in Wallonia.

Financing

Primary Funding Sources: National Institute for Health and Disability Insurance (NIHDI) and regional funds.

Financial Mechanisms for Sustainability: No. Other than some involvement in vaccine procurement negotiations.

Influence of Public-Private Partnerships: No. If there is, focus mainly on policy influence rather than direct funding.

Ringfencing: No. The regional budget is annually negotiated and ringfenced in the national budget, but prevention or vaccination financing is not.

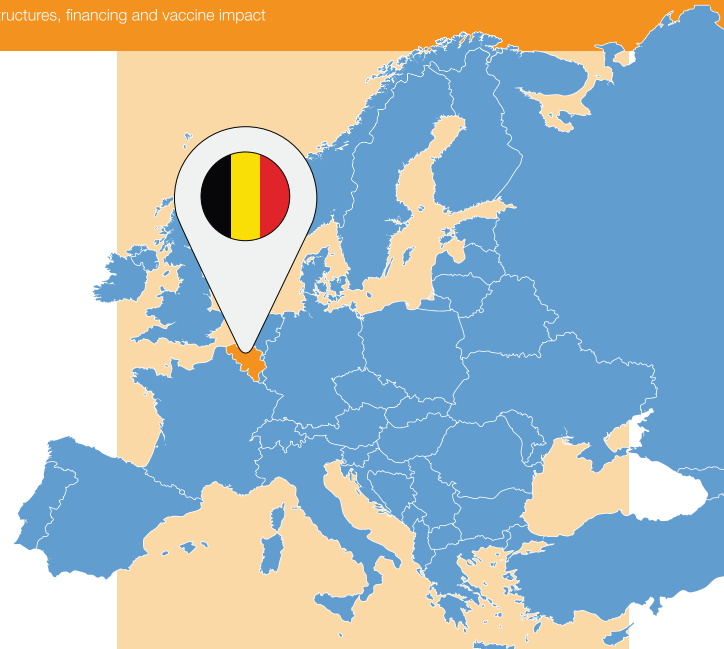
Critical Financing Challenges: Budget limitations and variability by region affect the uniformity and extent of vaccine coverage.

	Yes	No
Ministry of Finance Involvement	✓	
Ringfencing		✓
Financial Mechanisms for Sustainability		✓
External Funding Sources		✓
Influence of Public-Private Partnerships		✓

Landscape

Most funded vaccination campaigns: Universal infant and school child immunisation programs receive the most funding.

Future: Future funding strategies may shift towards a larger prevention budget depending on electoral outcomes. The COVID financing mechanism at the national level has not remained, but vaccination access has increased, supported by pharmacists who can now vaccinate.



Decentralised Health System



10.9%
of GDP spent
on healthcare



3.1%
of healthcare
budget is spent
on prevention



57%
Over-65 influenza
vaccination
coverage (2021)

Adult vaccination (18+) recommendation against 12 diseases:

COVID-19*
RSV
Diphtheria
Tetanus
Pertussis
Poliomyelitis*
Hepatitis B*
Pneumococcal disease*
Varicella
Influenza*
Herpes Zoster
Hepatitis A*

*6/12 are
government
funded

Influenza vaccination

