TEMPORARY BEINGS

POLAND

ITALY

THE NETHERLANDS

FRANCE

BELGIUM

PORTUGA

SPAIN

Understanding the Housing Conditions of Invisible Liquid Migration in the Netherlands





Source: Photographed by Author



MOTIVATION

"The migrant is in several other ways an 'ideal' worker"



E.C.

TEMPORARY PEOPLE ADVERTISEMENTS

Source: "Looking for a Job | Seasonalwork.NL." Accessed January 26, 2024. https://seasonalwork.nl/en/.



There are 2.3 million migrant workers whose whereabouts are unknown in the Netherlands

NEWS ECONOMY Vlad Moca-Grama February 27, 2020 (1) 1 minute read



GROUND REALITY



TEMPORARY AGENCIES OR "UITZENDBUREAU"





CASA D'ITALIA, ARNHEM. 1956.



WORKER'S HOUSING, EGCHEL, LIMBURG. 2020.



NOW

WORKER'S HOUSING THROUGH DECADES



TIME FOR A NEW EXPLORATION



- I. INTRODUCTION
 METHODOLOGY
 THEORIES & CONCEPTS
 TEMPORARY BEINGS
- 5. CONCLUSION





National boundaries, it would seem, hold very little meaning at all. The squiggles hint at other political geographies, from the deeper past or some unimaginable future. A linguistic map of Europe, meanwhile, might look more like one of these than it would resemble a map of political borders.

EVER-CHANGING DEFINITION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

FREE YET REGULATED MOVEMENTS AND MOBILITIES









Source: Eurostat

TYPES OF MIGRATION IN THE NETHERLANDS







Departure rates (observed and forecast) of foreign-born immigrants by year of immigration and length of stay in the Netherlands





2006 2007 2008 2009

100

90 80

70

60 50

40

30

20 10

0

INCOMING LABOUR MIGRATION

08	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
-	— Dire	ectly en	nploye	d 🗕	— Em	ployed	via ag	ency			

Migrant workers as share of the workforce in Dutch agriculture, 2006–2019 (%)









Discontinuous Urban Fabric

N

Distribution Centres

Farmlands

Farmlands

Country Territories

Hydrography

Railways

Roadways

ce: Open Source Data was used to produce these maps





Legend

	Agricultural farmlands of production
	Intersitial spaces of interaction in the city
	River
	Logistics estates of production
	Logistic distribution center boxes
	Networks of distribution
• «	Goods and services
	Major distribution and infrastructural networks

Source: Open-source datasets by Merten Nefs were used for producing these maps









Legend

Very High Jobs (>160 jobs/ha) High Jobs (80-160 jobs/ha) Medium Jobs (40-80 jobs/ha) Low Jobs (20-40 jobs/ha) Very Low Jobs (1-20 jobs/ha) No data available/To be speculated further Agricultural farmlands of production

Source: Open-source datasets by Merten Nefs were used for producing these maps

SRQI

What are aspects of the system of 'temporary' jobs in the EU? How does it function in The Netherlands?

existing

SRQ2

What are the current housing environments of the migrant worker? What aspects of spatial justice are at stake in flexwonen for the temporary workers?

explore

SRQ3

Who is the contemporary temporary worker? What is their lifestyle and living environments? evaluate

SRQ4

How will the policy for flexible housing accomodate this new way of living?

reflect



How can the design and implementation of flexible housing strategies cater to the demands of temporary mobility workers in The Netherlands?

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

propose



METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK

Primary Methods

Secondary Methods



Fig: Conceptual Framework



SRQI

What are aspects of the system of 'temporary' jobs in the EU? How does it function in The Netherlands?

existing











Fig: Triangular Employment Relationship





Temporary Agencies ensure a safe and secure hello, in the Netherlands. However, TAW does not live up to its promises. Tall claims are exposed when the workers arrive here. The system of TAW is fragile and unjust to the labourer's needs. They seem glossy and welcoming digitally but are poorly managed on site. Market pressures are not solved by companies thus, labourers face the brunt of it. It is a highly controlled system.



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explore



MODULAR UNITS



MODULAR TOWER



TRANSFORMATION







Source: Mapping Spatial Patterns








SITE OBSERVATIONS



Fig: Site photos Source: Author

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Fig: Site photos Source: Author





Fig: Site photos Source: Author

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Natura 2000

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+ +		Leisure Zones + +
+ * +		Work Zones + + + + $+$
+ + + (+ + + + + + Discontinuous Urban Fabric
+ + +		+ + + + + + Logistic Estates + +
+ + +		Live Zones + + + +
+ + +		Religious Buildings + +
+ +	III+	Public Transport Roads +
	-	Provincial Roads + + +
+	-	Secondary & Tertiary Roads
+ +		Pathways + + +
10r +	+	Daily Routine of a Worker
. + .		Interaction Belts + + +

Fig: 1:10000 Site analysi



Motorway Airport Runway Airport apron Administrative boundary Lake · Reservoir Intermitten waterbody Forest · Wood Orchard · Vineyard Grass · Meadow Heathland Bare rock Golf course Brownfield site Allotments

Railway

Light rail

Taxiway

Glacier

Reef

Wetland

Farmland

Sand

Park

Cemetery

Sports pitch

Sports centre

Military area

Summit · Peak









VENRAY, LIMBURG



AMERICA, LIMBURG



MAASBREE, LIMBURG



PANNINGEN, LIMBURG



BAARLO, LIMBURG



MEIJEL, LIMBURG



VENLO, LIMBURG



EGCHEL, LIMBURG



MEIJEL, LIMBURG

Source: Google Earth





The number of labour migrants in Noord-Limburg is expected to double before 2030, which will further increase the existing problems (Bleker et al., 2020; Etil, 2018).

Source: SEO 2018, ABU



Fig: Workers 'Housing in Limburg hidden away in the trees Source: Google Earth







- SHOULD BE CLUBBED WITH PANNINGEN SITE





SHOULD BE CLUBBED WITH EGCHEL SITE















Municipalities must move away from relegating temporary housing to the fringes of urban areas. Integrating these complexes into the broader urban fabric with access to public amenities, transportation and social spaces is crucial for fostering a sense of belonging and facilitating interaction with the wider community.

Minimum liveability standards should be viewed as a starting point rather than the ceiling for housing quality. Prioritising spacious living quarters, well-designed communal areas and the incorporation of green spaces can significantly improve the well-being and social sustainability of these communities. The Housing Catalogue helps in comparative analysis pointing out the pros and cons of sites.



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evaluate





HEIGHT REQUIREMENTS FOR PLATFORM LADDERS TO PLUCK FRUITS FROM TREES IN ORCHARDS



BENDING ON KNEES TO HARVEST CABBAGE IN GREENHOUSES



MININE HANDS FOR BERRY PICKING IN GREENHOUSES

Source: https://www.berryworld.com/nl/over-ons/telers









	HORTICULTURE & AGRICULTURE			
	APPLES & PEARS	CELERY - FIELD &	TULIPS IN	
		GREENHOUSE	GREENHOUSE	8
CUODT CTAY	ASPARAGUS ON	ENDIVE - FIELD &		
SHORT STAY	FIELD	GREENHOUSE		
>6 MONTHS	BROCCOLI &	PAKCHOI - FIELD &		1 1 1
20 MUNIHS	CAULIFLOWER	GREENHOUSE		
	LETTUCE - FIELD &	PUMPKIN		
	GREENHOUSE			

	LOGISTICS		HORTICULTURE & AGRICULTURE	
AND CTAV	WAREHOUSE	PRODUCTION	LEEKS	FLEXIBLE AGRI -
MID STAY	EMPLOYEES	EMPLOYEE	- 	WORKER ON FIELD
	WAREHOUSE		ZUCCHINI	STRAWBERRY IN
6 MONTHS - 2 YEARS	OPERATORS			GREENHOUSE
LIEARS	ORDER	1	PAPRIKA IN	TULIPS ON FIELD
	PICKERS		GREENHOUSE	
	FORKLIFT	1	COURGETTE IN	
	DRIVERS		GREENHOUSE	

LOGISTICS		HORTICULTURE & AGRICULTURE
WAREHOUSE	PRODUCTION	TULIPS
EMPLOYEES	EMPLOYEE	ON FIELD
WAREHOUSE		NURSERY IN
OPERATORS		GREENHOUSE
ORDER		TOMATOES IN
PICKERS		GREENHOUSE
FORKLIFT		
DRIVERS		

IOTE:			
	THE STEREOTYPE BASED ON YOUR NATIONA		
	RECRUITMENT.		
	COMMON SENSE IS NON-NEGOTIABLE.		

long stay

< 2 YEARS

ALITY WILL PLAY A BIG ROLE IN JOB

SOME JOBS MAY REQUIRE LANGUAGE SKILLS BASED ON THE PROVINCE.





The temporary worker must always be available to the commands of their employer. If the employer is dissatisfied with the worker, they might lose their job. Losing a job also means losing your home.

The images captured during this fieldwork provided a glimpse into the modular housing provided to workers showcasing both single and couple units. These units, while adhering to the minimum requirements stipulated by SNF regulations are often cramped, offering limited personal space. Ethical considerations regarding privacy and potential distress for readers necessitate the omission of photographs featuring the workers themselves.



STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS				
DATE OF	TYPE OF	LENGTH OF	PROFESSION OF	STAKEHOLDER
INTERVIEW	INTERVIEW	INTERVIEW	INTERVIEWEE	GROUP
05.03.24	TELEPHONE CONVERSATION	BRIEF	CIVIL SERVANT	MUNICIPALITY
05.03.24	IN-PERSON CONVERSATION	BRIEF	OFFICE MANAGER	LOGISTICS COMPANY
05.03.24	IN-PERSON CONVERSATION	BRIEF	TEMPORARY WORKER	WORKER GROUPS
12.03.24	DIGITAL (ONLINE) INTERVIEW	IN DEPTH	VISUAL ARTIST	EXPERTS
15.03.24	IN-PERSON INTERVIEW	IN DEPTH	SITE MANAGEMENT	REAL ESTATE DEVELOPER
15.03.24	IN-PERSON INTERVIEW	IN DEPTH	DIRECTOR - SITE MANAGEMENT	REAL ESTATE DEVELOPER
15.03.24	IN-PERSON INTERVIEW	IN DEPTH	COORDINATOR OF TEMP.WORKERS	TEMPORARY AGENCY
18.04.24	IN-PERSON INTERVIEW	IN DEPTH	SITE MANAGEMENT	TEMPORARY AGENCY
18.04.24	IN-PERSON CONVERSATION	BRIEF	TEMPORARY WORKER	WORKER GROUPS
19.04.24	IN-PERSON CONVERSATION	IN DEPTH	ACADEMIC RESEARCHER	EXPERTS



WORKER GROUPS

, 8 1 8
for 1.5 years. They shared positive feedback about the amenities, especially the oven but had experienced
disruptions from past tenants. They were generally satisfied with their living conditions except for minor
complaints about bathroom size. Their contentment was influenced by the presence of the supervisor,
although they expressed privacy concerns when he entered their chalet without permission. Their
choice of residence was influenced by proximity to work and amenities. They mentioned casual smoking
gatherings among residents and expressed a desire for higher wages to achieve financial stability quickly
and efficiently.
The Ukrainian worker mentioned working for a Siberian company that provides transportation for its
employees. They struggled to understand the conversation and abruptly left with two colleagues on a
bike.

Conversations and observations were done with on-site workers, including a Polish couple residing there

LOGISTICS COMPANY

Discussion on temporary agency hiring, worker skills, language barriers, labour management, security concerns, housing trends and nationality stereotypes. Temporary agencies are contacted directly for labour, workers often lack basic skills like scanning tags which require training, language barriers are addressed through basic skill teachings, temporary agencies manage labour demand, workplace security with surveillance due to equipment theft, the trend of housing workers in temporary accommodations due to cheap land in certain regions, stereotypes associated with nationalities like perceived hard work of Polish workers and biases against Romanians and Bulgarians.

MUNICIPALITY

The municipality representative mentioned that migrants have been integrating into the community since the 1960s with some second and third-generation migrants present. Migrant labour is important in industries like asparagus farming. The representative highlighted challenges with big nationwide temporary work agencies operating in the Netherlands. Migrants typically stay in the area for 3-6 months and primarily interact with the local community at supermarkets. The representative also mentioned a noticeable increase in housing construction in the area.

EXPERTS

The visual artist and her group of 'community listeners' conduct interviews and interventions on seasonal farming issues drawing from their firsthand farm work experience. They address the challenges of flexible labour arrangements in agriculture across Europe. They discuss housing differences between Belgium and the Netherlands highlighting unique aspects of each country's housing market and criticising the highly regulated Dutch market. The group emphasises the workers' desire for privacy and personal space and the importance of communal living. The workers are driven by financial gain but also long for stability and belonging. Integration into Dutch society poses challenges and factors like gender and nationality influence living and working conditions. Organisations advocate for better housing conditions and policy-making should prioritize worker well-being and involve them in decision-making.

The academic researcher discusses challenges in housing arrangements near workplaces in the Netherlands where planning strategies are key, alongside historical comparisons. Migrant workers from Eastern Europe are drawn to sectors like logistics and services but face difficulties in housing due to language barriers and stigmas. Housing policies in trade landscapes are often disconnected from spatial planning leading to inadequate housing conditions. The researcher suggests abolishing stringent housing regulations in logistic parks for Dutch-standard accommodations and community well-being. Future trends include a decline in migrant labour due to economic advancements, automation impacting labour dynamics and the need for equitable housing solutions. Potential renewal in trade landscapes involves vertical expansion, biodiversity initiatives and mix-use programs for sustainability and community engagement.

TEMPORARY AGENCY

MK oversees operations at a temporary agency managing various aspects like employee accommodations, safety gear distribution and loaning cars for employee use. The agency primarily serves Limburg's agricultural sector with a focus on horticulture in greenhouses. Workers appreciate this chalet-setting for its proximity to work, gymanisums and communal spaces. Residents come from diverse nationalities with occasional language barriers. Adherence to house rules is crucial with strict regulations against drug use. Work schedules vary throughout the year with peak seasons from April to November. Experience is valued to hire workers and returning workers are preferred.

Temporary work agencies emerged in the Netherlands around the 1980s and have since evolved to serve various industries. Different agencies have different specialisations with some focusing on local farms and horticulture while larger agencies cater to nationwide companies. Agencies have international connections such as between the Netherlands and Poland to facilitate worker recruitment. Ideal flex workers need to meet specific job requirements, possess relevant skills and adapt to fluctuating demands. Workers choose agencies based on payment rates, reputation and sector preferences. Companies engage with agencies based on trust, past experiences and recommendations. Demand for labour fluctuates seasonally with agencies adjusting their workforce accordingly. Housing conditions and benefits are crucial for workers who value privacy and access to amenities like gymnasiums to be in shape for strenuous work. Returning home frequency varies and living and working conditions may reflect gender and nationality differences. Worker experiences have evolved due to shifts in technology and market demands impacting job stability and worker preferences.

REAL ESTATE DEVELOPERS

An on-site employee of a real estate developer company mentioned that the primary objective is to provide housing solutions with a hospitality approach. They described the building's construction using modular blocks and highlighted security and surveillance measures in place. The housing allocation process is based on workers' preferences with rooms for couples and singles from various nationalities and genders. Workers choose their housing type based on proximity to work. Common amenities include a **smoking shed**, living spaces and laundry rooms all under CCTV surveillance. There is a diverse age range among residents and efforts are made to manage social tensions. The real estate company collaborates with the local community is encouraged with minimal disturbances reported. Work schedules for migrants in the logistics sector vary with no distinct peak or dry seasons. The employee expressed satisfaction with their role of overlooking operations on the housing site.

The director is looking after projects addressing a shortage of beds for migrant workers and plans to add 4000-5000 more beds over the next five years. He is goal-oriented. Municipalities play a key role in site selection prioritising areas with work opportunities. Migrants appreciate shared accommodations with privacy like mobile homes. Communal living offers cultural exchange opportunities but can lead to conflicts and interactions with locals vary. Keeping the "neighbours" aka locals with gifts during neighbourhood gatherings is important to ensure fewer complaints. The housing density is based on demand-supply dynamics and modular buildings are tailored to specific dimensions. Finding available land is the most difficult in the Netherlands and sometimes a site may adjoin a trash depot deeming it to be unfavourable.

DESIGN OPPORTUNITIES

DESIGN THREATS

DESIGN THREATS

COORDINATOR

SITE MANAGEMENT

DESIGN OPPO	ORTUNITIES
Diverse Collective	Proximity to
& Experience	Workplaces
Corridor Migration	Accommodation
& Housing Variability	Types
Innovative Housing	Amenities & Leisure
Solutions	Spaces
Challenges of	Housing Allocation
Housing Conditions	based on Seasonal
Across Europe	Flexibility
Desire for Privacy &	Privacy &
Personal Space	Maintenance
Involving Workers in Planning	Health & Transportation Benefits

DESIGN THREATS		
Over-Regulated Housing Policies	Overcrowding	
Inadequate Privacy & Personal Space	Dependence on Proximity	
Neglect of Cultural & Gender Sensitivities	Variable Agency Standards	
Economic Exploitation &	Privacy Issues	
Transient Lifestyle	Wear & Tear	
Social Isolation & Lack of Community Engagement	Social Tensions	
Insufficient Advocacy & Representation	Technological Displacement	

Integration with Urban Landscape Modular Construction

Community Cohesion

Alignment with Historical Precedents

Addressing Language Barriers and Stigmas

Economic Drivers & Durability and SNF Cultural Barriers Influence of Gender & Nationality

Equitable Living Conditions

Smoking and Drinking Policies

Site Selection Criteria

Cleanliness and Surveillance

Regulations

Communal Gathering Spaces & Amenities

Inadequate Housing Limited Personal Standards

Stringent Regulations Impending Liberties

Decline in Migrant Labour Influx

Impact of Automation on Labour Dynamics

Disconnection Between Trade & Housing Policies

Limited Transparency on Density Calculation Construction

Freedoms

Maintenance Challenges

Strict Substance Policies

Potential Over-Reliance on Technology

Potential Conflicts

Dependence on Modular

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How can the design and implementation of flexible housing strategies cater to the demands of temporary mobility workers in The Netherlands?

propose



Source: Design Principles on scale



Fig: Helpful Guide for the Workers and Recommendations to the Municipality

MAASBREE















AMERICA





HOUSING CHART ATTRIBUTES



Degree of Isolation

HIGH

OW

Integration with City Vibrancies

VERY HIGH

"Availability of land is the primary criterion. If you have a location in mind, please let me know."

"Municipalities play a pivotal role in our site selection process. Collaboration with them is key."

"Housing density is based on demand and supply dynamics."

"Cheap housing options often arise due to cheap land in regions like North Limburg and Brabant."

I. Analyse Potential **Neighbourhoods**/ **Cities/Villages**

By carefully analysing potential locations for housing complexes, cities and villages can leverage these projects to strengthen communities and address challenges like urban shrinkage. This principle prioritises integration over isolation recognising that well-considered placement can make all the difference in fostering social cohesion and maximising positive impact. Instead of relegating housing complexes to the outskirts, this approach seeks to weave them into the existing urban fabric, adding opportunities for adaptive reuse and enhanced connectivity. Sites must be selected based on these criteria.

Urban Shrinkage: The entire province of Limburg is seeing a decline in population growth. These measures can help mutually benefit the aging population of Limburg.

Adaptive Reuse: Prioritise the adaptive reuse of vacant or underutilised buildings within existing neighbourhoods breathing new life into these areas while minimising environmental impact.

Insert Programs: Adding certain programs such as community centers, brown bars, restaurants in certain municipalities can activate 'dormant' cities.

Connectivity & Accessibility: Ensure seamless connectivity between housing complexes and the surrounding urban fabric through pedestrian-friendly streetscapes, public transportation access and proximity to essential amenities.

By actively addressing urban shrinkage and promoting accessibility, this principle aims to create a win-win situation for migrant workers and the host communities.



Transition towards shrinkage

VENRAY



















HOUSING CHART ATTRIBUTES



Shared Synergies

"In essence, the drive to earn quickly and return home is inexorably intertwined with the existential quest for belonging and stability manifesting in the delicate balance between economic imperatives and social integration."

"Certain tasks or acommodations tailored to specific gender norms or preferences."

"Historical instances of Workers' Housing."

"Equitable housing solutions aligned with urban standards. Low-income housing."

"A paradigm shift is required, advocating for the abolition of such housing models in favour of Dutch standard accommodations."

"Each municipality adopts disparate approaches to housing migrant workers."

2. Optimise Scale, Club and Density

Balancing the need for efficient land use with the creation of thriving and human-scaled communities is paramount in designing successful housing complexes. The principle addresses this challenge by strategically concentrating living and leisure spaces while fostering a strong sense of neighbourhood among residents which is currently absent.

Density & Efficiency: Increase the scale and density of both living and leisure spaces within housing complexes. This approach optimises land use efficiency, reduces infrastructure costs and allows for the creation of more generous communal amenities.

The Dunbar's Number Neighbourhood: Structure housing complexes around the concept of "neighbourhoods" comprising approximately 150 residents. This scale fosters a sense of belonging and facilitates social interaction mirroring the dynamics of adjacent small villages.

Shared Resources & Synergies: Encourage the sharing of resources within neighbourhoods such as laundry facilities, communal kitchens or recreational areas. The scale and capacity of these shared spaces should be carefully considered to the number of residents they serve ensuring both convenience and sustainability.

Clubbed Agricultural Activities: Align the scheduling of agricultural activities with seasonal demands concentrating workers with similar tasks within the same neighbourhoods. This "clubbing" approach optimises productivity, facilitates knowledge sharing among workers and strengthens social bonds.

Collective Bargaining Power: The proximity and shared experiences fostered by this principle can empower workers to advocate for their rights more effectively. Organising trade unions or worker cooperatives becomes more feasible within these close-knit communities potentially leading to improved working conditions and wages






Fig: Design Principle 2 - Clubbing Sites Source: Author

VENRAY





OOSTRUM







AMERICA





HOUSING CHART ATTRIBUTES HORICULTURE AND AGRICULTURE

SECTOR CAN LIVE CLOSE TO THE

WORKPLACE.



LOGISTICS WORKERS CAN LIVE AWAY
FROM WORKPLACES DUE TO FIXED AND
FLEXIBLE SCHEDULES.
LONG STAY
WORK
LIVE



Proximity to workplace

"The couple's choice of residence was influenced by proximity to their workplace and the amenities offered."

"Privacy concerns arose when he entered their chalet without prior consent, highlighting a breach of privacy."

"A designated haven—a cocoon of personal space"

"Additionally, transportation services (cars) are available to reduce the burden of travel for workers commuting to distant locations."

3. Maintain Proximity to Employment Hubs

Minimising commutes and maximising accessibility to essential services are crucial for the well-being of temporary migrant workers who often face time constraints and limited local knowledge. The principle advocates for locating housing complexes in close proximity to employment centers while ensuring worker autonomy and preventing exploitative practices.

Proximity to Employment: Prioritise the placement of housing complexes within a reasonable distance from major employment centers for seasonal work. This reduces commuting time and costs for workers allowing them to maximise their earnings and leisure time.

Zero Physical Workplace Control: While advocating for proximity, it's crucial to maintain a clear separation between living and working spaces. Avoid locating housing complexes within or immediately adjacent to workplaces to prevent potential exploitation from employers and ensure workers have control over their personal time and space.

Urban Design for Autonomy: Implement urban design strategies that foster a sense of autonomy and privacy for residents. This could include creating buffer zones between housing complexes and work areas ensuring clear visual separation between work and living environments.





INTEGRATE INTO EXISTING URBAN FABRIC COMPLETELY

> Fig: Design Principle 3 Source: Author

GOOD EXAMPLE PANNINGEN





POOR EXAMPLE BAARLO







POOR EXAMPLE





GOOD EXAMPLE MEIJEL





HOUSING CHART ATTRIBUTES







"Worker well being is important."

"Workers can also enjoy scenic surroundings, including a forest and lake, during their free time. This is what makes the Egchel location favourable."

"Landscape must be integrated."

"Quality of living conditions is of paramount importance."

"Front yards can serve as communal gathering spaces."

4. Integrate with Existing **Urban Fabric and Enhance** Social Interaction

Weaving new housing complexes into the existing urban fabric is essential for fostering a sense of belonging and preserving local identity. The principle emphasises respectful design that complements the surrounding architecture while creating opportunities for meaningful interaction between residents and the broader community.

Contextual Design: Prioritise architectural designs that harmonise with the existing built environment. Consider the scale, materials, colours and styles prevalent in the surrounding area to create a sense of continuity and visual coherence.

Respecting Local Character: Conduct thorough site analysis to understand the unique character and history of the surrounding neighbourhood. Integrate elements that reflect local identity such as traditional building materials, landscaping choices or public art installations.

Interactive Zones: Strategically choose sites that have shared public spaces along common pedestrian routes. These interactive zones encourage spontaneous encounters and foster a sense of community between residents and those living or working nearby.

Permeable Boundaries: Avoid creating harsh physical barriers between housing complexes and the surrounding neighbourhood. Utilise permeable boundaries such as hedges, low walls or shared green spaces to encourage visual and social connections.

LOCALS





Natura 2000

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$+ + + + + \langle + + + + + + + + + + + + + +$	<u> </u>	Logistic Estates + + + + + + + +
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+ + + +	-	Secondary & Tertiary Roads
+ + lysis map in Egchel		Pathways + + +
Source: Author	+	Daily Routine of a Worker
/+ + +	-	+ + + + + +

Interaction Belts

-

VENLO







MEIJEL





FULLY INTEGRATED INTO THE COMMUNITY A MIXED-INCOME OR SOCIAL HOUSING

Image: block of the state of the



Challenge SNF regulations, increase floor space requirements

"In the Flemish region, there exists a surplus of vacant bungalows and villas that are often rented out to flex workers."

"Integration within the urban landscape rather than isolation."

"Segregation results in these workers living far away from the urban core."

"Equitable housing solutions aligned with urban standards. Regular Dutch standards must apply."

5. Promote Sustainable Building Design Strategies

Embracing adaptive reuse and designing for adaptability are key to creating resilient and sustainable housing solutions for temporary migrant workers while contributing to the Netherlands' long-term housing needs. The principle prioritises the transformation of existing building stock while ensuring new constructions can adapt to evolving demands moving away from short-term solutions towards housing options that can be integrated into the country's permanent housing stock.

Prioritise Adaptive Reuse for Migrant Housing: Before constructing new buildings specifically for migrant workers, conduct a thorough inventory of existing building stock, identifying vacant or underutilised structures suitable for transformation into housing complexes. This approach minimises environmental impact while creating housing options adaptable to future needs.

Design for Adaptability and Future Integration: Implement flexible design strategies in both new constructions and renovations allowing spaces to be easily adapted for various uses and household sizes over time. Consider modular components, movable walls and adaptable infrastructure to accommodate the evolving needs of both migrant and long-term residents.

Long-Term Vision for Migrant Housing: While addressing the immediate need for temporary housing for migrant workers, prioritize designs that can transition into long-term housing solutions for the broader population. This may involve incorporating features typically associated with permanent housing such as private outdoor spaces, ample storage and communal areas that foster a sense of community.

Challenge Regulations for Improved Liveability: Critically assess existing regulations related to migrant housing such as SNF and AKF regulations, rather advocate for adjustments that improve liveability standards without compromising safety or accessibility. Focus on ensuring quality housing for migrant workers that can seamlessly transition into long-term housing options.



ADAPTIVE REUSE OF A MONASTERY INTO FLEXIBLE HOUSING FOR MIGRANT WORKERS



NEW CONTRUCTION FOR FLEXIBLE HOUSING FOR MIGRANT WORKERS



LONG-TERM VISION FOR HOUSING FOR MIGRANT WORKERS



GOOD EXAMPLE PANNINGEN





At the scale of the window



POOR EXAMPLE BAARLO







POOR EXAMPLE MEIJEL







At the scale of the unit

"Worker well being is important."

"Workers can also enjoy scenic surroundings, including a forest and lake, during their free time. This is what makes the Egchel location favourable."

"Landscape must be integrated."

"Quality of living conditions is of paramount importance."

"Front yards can serve as communal gathering spaces."

6. Enhance Environmental Quality

Recognising that a dwelling is more than just a shelter, the principle emphasises the creation of spaces that foster well-being and a sense of belonging even within the context of temporary housing. This is particularly crucial for migrant workers who often have limited housing choices and may face additional challenges in establishing a sense of home.

Green Spaces for Well-being: Integrate a variety of green spaces such as courtyards and frontyards within the housing complex. These spaces provide opportunities for relaxation, social interaction and connection with nature fostering a sense of community and improving mental well-being.

Sustainable Landscaping Practices: Implement green infrastructure solutions such as permeable paving and rainwater harvesting systems to manage stormwater runoff and reduce the environmental impact of the development.

Outdoor Amenities: Provide access to outdoor amenities that promote physical activity and social interaction such as walking paths, exercise areas and communal gardens. These spaces encourage a healthy lifestyle and foster a sense of belonging among residents.

Reduce Environmental Impact: Implement strategies to minimise the overall environmental footprint of the housing complex. This includes using renewable energy sources, reducing energy and water consumption and promoting sustainable waste management practices.

Bridging the Gap: By incorporating these elements, we can help bridge the gap between simply providing shelter and creating supportive, adaptable environments where migrant workers can feel more at home, even during their temporary stay. This is essential for their overall well-being and can contribute to a more positive and integrated experience (Druță & Fatemidokhtcharook, 2023).



ENSURE MAXIMUM LIVEABILITY



TANIMURA AND ANTLE AGRICULTURAL HOUSING COMPLEX, CA, USA



TANIMURA AND ANTLE AGRICULTURAL HOUSING COMPLEX, CA, USA

Fig: Design Principle 6 Source: https://www.ccof.org/news/take-a-tour-of-tanimuraantles-housing-for-farmworkers/





MAASBREE











EGCHEL



AMERICA





HOUSING CHART ATTRIBUTES



Facilities provided



Pavilions for community interaction



Degree of Privacy maintained

Casual smoking gatherings were observed on the staircases.

"Prioritise community spaces while allowing for personal privacy."

"Reluctance exists among themselves to cohabitate with others, often attributed to language barriers and associated stigmas."

gather in the courtyard between chalets for barbecues and community time."

"In the case of the Romanian community, the bathroom became an integral place for discussion"

"Gender and nationality can pose huge problems some times."

7. Encourage Social Interaction through Shared Facilities on Site

Recognising the importance of social connection for well-being, the principle prioritises the creation of vibrant, welcoming communal spaces within housing complexes. These spaces should be designed to encourage interaction, facilitate a sense of belonging and promote social cohesion among workers particularly those from diverse backgrounds and cultures. By fostering positive interactions, these spaces can help break down stereotypes and promote understanding across nationalities and genders.

Multifunctional Common Areas: The versatile common areas that are designed currently should be continued but made more spacious to accommodate a range of activities, from casual gatherings and social events to shared meals and recreational pursuits.

Outdoor Gathering Spaces: Create inviting outdoor areas such as courtyards, pavilions and gardens that provide opportunities for residents to connect with nature and socialise in a relaxed setting. Consider incorporating seating areas, barbecue pits or play structures to enhance these spaces and encourage interaction among diverse groups.

Shared Kitchen and Dining Facilities: Provide well-equipped communal kitchens and dining areas where residents can prepare meals together, share culinary traditions and foster diverse cuisines. This was a feature in older guestworker housing which should be encouraged.

Cultural Exchange Programs: Consider incorporating spaces that can host cultural events, language exchanges or workshops that celebrate the diversity of the resident community. These programs can help bridge cultural divides, promote understanding and challenge stereotypes. The introduction of learning Dutch can also add as a possibility if workers plan to integrate long-term in the

society. Breaking Down Barriers: By intentionally designing inclusive and welcoming shared spaces, housing complexes can become catalysts for positive social change fostering a sense of community that transcends cultural differences and promotes respectful, equitable relationships among all residents.







NOT A SUITABLE EXAMPLE







A GOOD EXAMPLE





A GOOD EXAMPLE

Fig: Design Principle 7 Source: https://kafrahousing.com/en/snf-standard/; https://faro.nl/projecten/flexwonen-oosterdreef; https://www.floridahealth.gov/environmental-health/migrant-farmworker-housing/index.html





GOOD EXAMPLE MAASBREE





HOUSING CHART ATTRIBUTES



Create mixed housing typologies cater to different groups



MEIJEL







AMERICA







Give each unit its own identity

"Migrants transitioning from rural areas to urban settings often appreciate teh shift while others have different preferences."

"We collaborate with external entities for module design."

"Efforts are made to mitigate social tension, conflicts, language barriers and cultural differences."

Workers can choose their housing as per their lifestyles, room assignments should not be dictated.

"Various nationalities and genders can be housed together if the option is left upto them."

8. Diversify Module Typologies

Recognising that one size does not fit all, the principle advocates for a range of housing module designs within a single complex. This approach caters to the diverse needs and preferences of residents fostering a socially inclusive environment that welcomes individuals and families of varying sizes, ages, nationalities, gender and backgrounds.

Variety in Size and Configuration: Offer modules in a range of sizes for couples and singles with an option to add additional spaces if required. Explore flexible layouts that can adapt to changing needs over time. Offer modules that can be connected to each other and become larger spaces through permutations and combinations.

Cluster Housing Units: Group smaller, private living units around a central courtyard or shared green space. Provide communal amenities like kitchens, laundry facilities and social areas that allow for both privacy and connection.

Cultural Sensitivity: Be mindful of the cultural backgrounds and practices of residents when designing housing and communal spaces.

By embracing a diversity of module typologies, housing complexes can move beyond homogeneity and create vibrant, inclusive communities that reflect the richness and complexity of human experience.



Relax urban density and

neighbourhoods to the

improve visibility by opening up the

central area

Initial COA urban strategy: Make 8 neighbourhoods to create smaller social clusters. Improve the atmosphere and homely perception by reducing the inside area of the neighbourhoods.



AROUND 100 ROOMS IN ZOETERMEER BY SVP ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING, MIXED DESIGN OF MODULES WITH SHARED SPACES





Create extra public space to relax the density of people by enlarging the in-between area and increasing the sport and games program. Give its own identity to each neighbourhood.

Facilitate way-finding by marking the entrance to each neighbourhood with a kiosk.

STEP BY STEP PLANNING TO ACCOMODATE ALL DIVERSE NEEDS. IN TER APPEL BY DE ZWARTE HOND

> Fig: Design Principle 8 Source: https://architectenweb.nl/nieuws/artikel.aspx?id=58094; https://dezwartehond.nl/projecten/coa-opvang-ter-apel/



MAASBREE





HOUSING CHART ATTRIBUTES



PARCEL OF LAND PER UNIT FOR PERSONAL APPROPRIATION -grow your own crops, fence your own space, build a pavilion



Facilities provided

Degree of privacy

"The concept of scaled-down familial environment embodied by compact living spaces like containers, resonates strongly with these workers, fostering a sense of ownership and belonging."

"A desire for autonomy in shaping their living spaces and front yards for communal gatherings."

"Prioritise community spaces while allowing for personal privacy."

"Privacy is highly valued."

9. Allocate Space for Ownership and Belonging

Recognising that a sense of ownership and personal space contributes significantly to well-being, the principle advocates for providing each housing unit with a designated outdoor area. This space, whether a small garden plot or balcony, empowers residents to express their individuality, connect with nature and create a personalised haven within the larger community.

Individual Garden Plots: Where feasible, allocate individual garden plots to each housing unit. This allows residents to engage in gardening, grow their own food and connect with nature on a personal level.

Private Balconies: For multi-unit vertically high dwellings, ensure each unit has access to a private or semi-private outdoor space, running all around the building. These spaces provide a sense of personal retreat and inspire the neighbours.

Design for Flexibility: Encourage personalisation by designing outdoor spaces that can be adapted to suit individual preferences and cultural practices. Provide basic infrastructure such as water access and fencing options that residents can build upon.

Promote Sharing and Exchange: While emphasising personal space, also encourage opportunities for sharing, exchange and dialogue among residents. This could involve creating communal composting areas, seed libraries or designated spaces for sharing gardening tools and knowledge.

Fostering a Sense of Belonging: By providing residents with a tangible space they can shape and care for, we foster a deeper sense of ownership, belonging and connection to the community. These personalised spaces become extensions of their homes, even within a temporary housing context.



MEIJEL











DIY PARCEL OUTSIDE UNITS



12.5 sq.m. PER ROOM



TO USE WHEN ONE IS 'OUT OF WORK' OR DURING FREE TIME









GOOD EXAMPLE VENRAY





POOR EXAMPLE











Indoor quality as important as outdoor quality



Accomodate more space for well-being which is excluded from SNF regulations

"Some workers lamented past disturbances from previous tenants."

"Diverse approaches to housing among flex-workers."

"There are instances where gender also influences living conditions with certain tasks or accommodations tailored to specific gender norms or preferences."

"Each municipality adopts disparate approaches to housing migrant workers."

"We have exceeded the SNF requirements and provided better quality floor spaces."

I0. Build Better Designsto Improve PsychologicalIndoor Quality

Extending the focus on well-being beyond the outdoor environment, this principle emphasises the critical link between indoor spaces and psychological health. The design of our homes themselves plays a significant role in shaping our mood, stress levels and overall sense of well-being. By incorporating design elements that promote calm, comfort and a sense of control within living spaces, we can create supportive environments that nurture the mental and emotional health of residents.

Visual Connections to Nature: Maximise views of nature through large windows, strategically placed skylights or access to courtyards and green spaces.

Natural Materials and Textures: Incorporate natural materials like wood, stone and bamboo into interior finishes and furnishings.

Dynamic and Diffuse Lighting: Mimic natural light patterns with a combination of ambient, task and accent lighting. Use adjustable lighting controls to allow residents to personalise their lighting experience.

Social Spaces that Encourage Interaction: Create welcoming and inclusive communal areas that foster a sense of community and reduce social isolation.

Personalization and Control: Empower residents to personalise their living spaces and exert a sense of control over their environment.

By prioritising psychological well-being in the design of housing for migrant workers, we can create supportive and nurturing environments that contribute to their overall health, happiness and integration into the community.



VENRAY DOUBLE BEDROOM



VENRAY DINING ROOM + LIVING ROOM



VENRAY COMMON INDOOR AREAS



2. Prioritising well-being and autonomy

3. Ensuring Equity and Sustainability

5. Fostering Collaboration and Innovation

DESIGN STRATEGIES

I. Fostering Belonging & Community:

4. Addressing Practical Needs

SRQI

What are aspects of the system of 'temporary' jobs in the EU? How does it function in The Netherlands?

existing

SRQ2

What are the current housing environments of the migrant worker? What aspects of spatial justice are at stake in flexwonen for the temporary workers?

explore

SRQ3

Who is the contemporary temporary worker? What is their lifestyle and living environments? evaluate

SRQ4

How will the policy for flexible housing accomodate this new way of living?

reflect



How can the design and implementation of flexible housing strategies cater to the demands of temporary mobility workers in The Netherlands?

propose





While flexible housing policies have emerged as a potential solution and spatial planning initiatives aim to create more inclusive urban environments, this project argues that their continued siloed operation particularly in the face of rapid verdozing or boxification undermines their effectiveness.Numerous reports highlight the positive strides made in both flexible housing and spatial planning. The speed and scale at which flexible housing projects materialise are commendable, offering a rapid response to urgent housing needs. Similarly, spatial planning initiatives increasingly prioritise social inclusion and mixed-income housing. However, this project reveals a critical oversight: the lack of integration between these two policy domains exacerbates the negative consequences of verdozing.





















THANK YOU



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