

Circular cities by the energy of people

(Post) PhD research, success factors for sustainability citizen group initiatives

Sanders, Fred; van Timmeren, Arjan

Publication date

2017

Citation (APA)

Sanders, F., & van Timmeren, A. (2017). *Circular cities by the energy of people: (Post) PhD research, success factors for sustainability citizen group initiatives*. Abstract from City+ Cambridge Martin Center conference, Cambridge, United Kingdom.

Important note

To cite this publication, please use the final published version (if applicable).
Please check the document version above.

Copyright

Other than for strictly personal use, it is not permitted to download, forward or distribute the text or part of it, without the consent of the author(s) and/or copyright holder(s), unless the work is under an open content license such as Creative Commons.

Takedown policy

Please contact us and provide details if you believe this document breaches copyrights.
We will remove access to the work immediately and investigate your claim.

'Circular cities by the energy of people'

(Post) PhD research, success factors for sustainability citizen group initiatives.

*Dr. Fred C. Sanders MSc MBA Senior-Fellow-Research (TSM) quest-researcher of ETD Chair
Prof. Dr. Arjan van Timmeren MSc. at TU Delft Architecture faculty Urbanism Department.*

ABSTRACT

Dutch best practices of sustainability projects in Amsterdam, Rotterdam and other Dutch cities show that making cities sustainable not only depends on the technological and regulation developments. The mobilization of the people involved is the crucial factor. Without the support and initiatives of citizens most technology for sustainability driven implementations become food-loose. The focus of citizens comparing to that of the professionals from municipalities, regional and national government and related organizations like energy producing entities and housing authorities though differs in time-horizon and area-bound scale. Citizens their priorities by taking initiative do lay in the nearby living-area heading for results on short notice what differs from the focus of these professionals. That hampers citizens initiative support and citizen-initiatives results. Still in the Netherlands citizens do create growing numbers of initiatives in the fields of liveability, care-giving and sustainability nature nowadays (www.maex.nl). These are my PhD (Sanders, 2014) and post-PhD research results (2014) that I nowadays may prolong by presenting the results on congresses, seminars and in workshops with citizens, professionals and students. This to stimulate their working together on making cities more sustainable and ready for the coming future.

Circularity the coming next deepening step into the Paris climate agreement does needs the success and enthusiasm of these citizen sustainability initiatives because circularity is strongly behaviour coupled. That's conclusion I dear to make to a statement. Based on personal quest postdoc research on citizen initiative comfort related circumstances though it seems that pure government driven projects can reach sustainable results of quality too. Strategies combining citizen initiative and governmental dominancy though show to have poorer results (Sanders and Timmeren, 2016). Group dynamic factors though play a role in citizen group initiatives, factors like the availability of front running people (Sanders and Overtoom, 2016), meeting places (Sanders, 2016), pride feeling (Sanders and Van Timmeren, 2017a) and support of neighboring citizens (Sanders and Van Timmeren, 2017b).

A conclusion that gives feed to the discussion whether national policies should make a choice for stimulating the multiplying of citizen initiative countrywide or start-up new governmental driven programs. The fact is that Dutch national government lacks the budget for such new governmental programs of impact en therefore chooses for instructing municipalities to stimulate all that could be possible to create sustainable and circular cities (countrywide transition by national law bringing the responsibilities for unemployment, personal health care and spatial planning under the umbrella of municipalities only). The effect are local mixed policies stimulating citizen initiatives and municipality projects both.

This situation bothers me and I am anxious to know what the observations of other country situations are, to talk with experts and university friends and colleagues. Therefore I want to share my research results, to enrich my insight to learn from them to make the Netherlands more sustainable and circular in the coming future concerning 'citizen sustainability initiatives stimulating factors, to reach the UN Paris Agreements goals with quality in time.

Researchgate: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Frederik_Christian_Sanders

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/sandersfred>

Email address: F.C.Sanders@tudelft.nl

Fred Sanders for City+ Cambridge UK, 23 September 2017.

- SANDERS, F. C. 2014. *Sustainable Development through Resident's Collective Initiatives (Dutch: Duurzame ontwikkeling door collectief bewonersinitiatief, leidraad voor professionals om bewonersgroepen aan de duurzaamheidsopgave te verbinden) (Peer-reviewed Dissertation)*. Delft, Delft University of Technology.
- SANDERS, F. C. 2016. Exploring resident-empowered meeting-places in Dutch neighbourhoods, by Jane Jacobs Walking Action-research methodology. *Jane Jacobs 100*. Delft: TU Delft Urbanism.
- SANDERS, F. C. & OVERTOOM, M. E. 2016. Optimal conditions for group-dynamic challenges, the results of mock-up research on group-dynamics during the January 2014 Juuka Finland 'Ice Dome' building by university students (Peer-reviewed). In: PRONK, A. E. T. U. (ed.) *ISOFF ICE 12-13 February Nunnanlahti Finland.: ISOFF ICE*.
- SANDERS, F. C. & TIMMEREN, A. V. 2016. 'Zero Transition' in housing areas prosper by balancing municipality-control and citizens-participation, by bundling of Dutch IKS2 case-study results in a PhD following-up (Peer-reviewed). In: EWEG, E. (ed.) *SBE16 Sustainable Built Environment 2016 - Transition Zero 7-8 April 2016 (Peer-Reviewed)*. Utrecht, the Netherlands: Utrecht University of Applied Science.
- SANDERS, F. C. & VAN TIMMEREN, A. 2017a. Pride the Civilians Motivator for Res-lient Sustainable Cities, results of the 2016 questionnaire research under Dutch Amsterdam council members (Peer-reviewed). *WSBE17 5-7 June*. Hong Kong China: WSBE.
- SANDERS, F. C. & VAN TIMMEREN, A. 2017b. 'Success factors for Greenish Initiatives of the Commons', results of the best practices 2016 research under Dutch Rotterdam project initiatives (Peer-reviewed). *IASC17*. Utrecht University of Applied Science: IASC.

Name Dr. Fred C. Sanders MSc MBA Senior-Fellow-Research
Place of birth March 14th of 1956 at Utrecht in The Netherlands
Address De Herkulis 27, Wormer, the Netherlands
Mobile phone +31 (0) 654773140

- Delft University of Technology, Architecture, Urbanism and Sustainability
- The Hague University of Applied Science, Built Environment department
- TSM (MBA) Business School, Dutch Twente University of Technology



Scientific biography of Dr. Fred C. Sanders. MSc. MBA Senior-Fellow Business research.

The resilience of citizens has always been my concern. The questions are how can citizens overcome the social stress of cities, help each other to take advancement of labor opportunities, how can they give foundation for sustainable cities and seek societal responsibility. That drives me into research, into workshops and lectures to involve other into this important topic of nowadays. My personal base for this interest has grown during my working period as an urbanist in sustainable city development (for government and into social housing management) and before being grown up at the Dutch coast and during my university years into civil engineering and my PhD at the architecture department both at Delft University of Technology. My MBA and post MBA years I studied at Dutch Erasmus University and IMD Lausanne learning how to reach targets with others. That made me the researcher and messenger that I am today, related to Delft University of Technology and the The Hague University of Applied Science. I try to prove that starting a scientific carrier doesn't matter age. I was asked to start my PhD at fifty and since I defended my dissertation in 2014 I visited several congresses, started-up publishing on the new topic of citizen resilience and mobilization, and visited universities in Europe and the Russian hemisphere and in Asia.

Education

- 2009 to 2014: PhD at Delft University of Technology; promotor Prof. dr. ir. A. van Timmeren.
- 2003 to 2007: IMD Lausanne, High Performance Leadership and Orchestra Winning Performance.
- 1985 to 1986: MBA at Erasmus University at Rotterdam, included organizational development.
- 1974 to 1982: Civil Engineering Delft Un of Technology: Coastal Engineering and Project management

Scientific working experience

- **From 2016 on:** Lecturer Building Environment at University The Hague of Applied Science.
- **From 2014 on:** Ambassador and funding manager 'Citizens Initiative' at TU Delft Architecture Urbanism.
- **From 2014 on:** Senior Lecturer at TSM Business School (Dutch Twente University of Technology).

Working experience

- **From 2015 on:** Commission Counselor at Water-district HHNK in the North-Holland region.
- **From 2014 on:** counselor at Wormerland city community and chairman financial control commission.
- **From 2013 on:** coaching Jane Jacobs walks for city neighbourhood developments in the Netherlands
- **From 2008 on:** president of CPO-NL, for supporting building housing and sustainable developments.
- 2008 to 2009: director for RE city developments at ASR insurances company.
- 1996 to 2007: chairman of ZVH, a Social Housing Foundation at Zaandam The Netherlands
- 1986 to 1994: senior project manager RGD Ministry VROM, the governmental RE development dep.
- 1983 to 1986: project manager at the Dutch Royal Marines RE department.