# STRENGTHENING THE SOCIAL ATTACHMENT IN DISADVANTAGED NEIGHBOURHOODS.

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THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK.

METHODOLOGY.

CASE STUDY.

RESULTS.

CONCLUSION.

DISCUSSION.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

#### CONTENT.

## INTRODUCTION. CONTENT.



CONTEXT.



PROBLEM STATEMENT.



RESEARCH GOAL.



RESEARCH QUESTION.



#### CONTEXT.

DISADVANTAGED NEIGHBOURHOODS
 IN THE NETHERLANDS



Stad	Gebied/wijk	Stad	Gebied/wijk
Amsterdam	Zuidoost	Leeuwarden	Oost
Amsterdam	Nieuw-West	Lelystad	Oost
Arnhem	Oost	Nieuwegein	Centrale-As
Breda	Noord	Roosendaal	-stad
Delft	West	Rotterdam	Zuid
Dordrecht	West	Schiedam	Nieuwland-Oost
Den Haag	Zuidwest	Tilburg	Noordwest
Eindhoven	Woensel-Zuid	Utrecht	Overvecht
Groningen	Noord	Vlaardingen	West
Heerlen	Noord	Zaandam	Oost





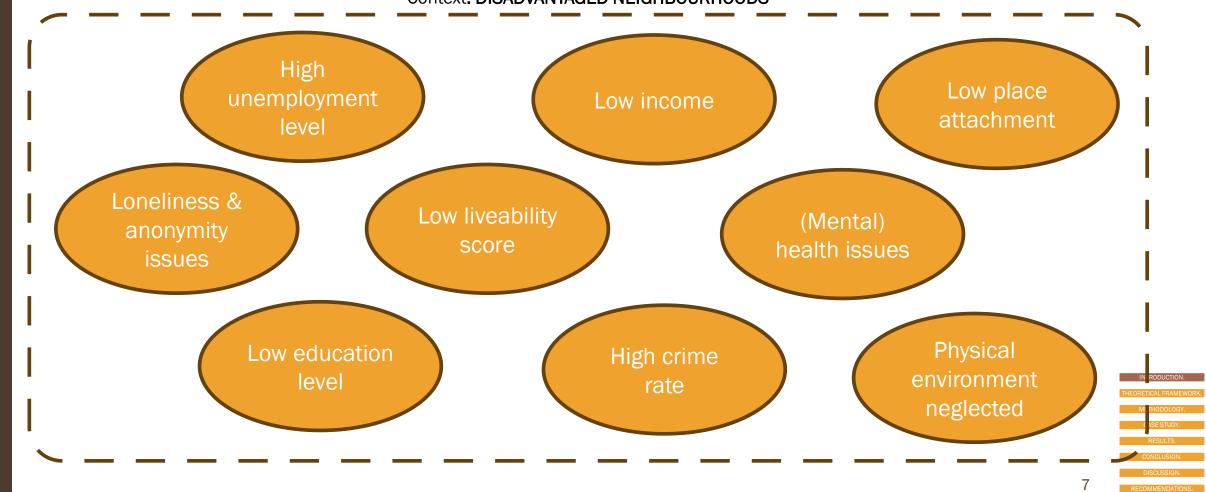
INTRODUCTION.
THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK
METHODOLOGY.
CASE STUDY.
RESULTS.
CONCLUSION.

CONTEXT.

Context: **DISADVANTAGED NEIGHBOURHOODS** 

## INTRODUCTION. CONTEXT.

Context: DISADVANTAGED NEIGHBOURHOODS



CONTEXT.

Context: DISADVANTAGED NEIGHBOURHOODS

21,8% of the Dutch residents experience LOW SOCIAL AND PHYSICAL ATTACHMENT to their neighbourhood

(Van der Graaf & Duyvendak, 2009)

The residents who exhibit low attachment to their neighbourhoods are most often found in the **disadvantaged areas** of the four main cities in the Netherlands

(Van der Graaf, 2009)



#### PROBLEM STATEMENT.

Context: DISADVANTAGED NEIGHBOURHOODS

39,6% of the residents living in disadvantaged areas experience

low social and physical attachment to their neighbourhood

(Van der Graaf & Duyvendak, 2009)



RESEARCH GOAL.

#### Context: DISADVANTAGED NEIGHBOURHOODS

39,6% of the residents living in disadvantaged areas experience

low social and physical attachment to their neighbourhood

(Van der Graaf & Duyvendak, 2009)

#### **GOAL**

LOOKING FOR INITIATIVES TO INCREASE THE SOCIAL ATTACHMENT



## INTRODUCTION. CONTEXT.

Context: DISADVANTAGED NEIGHBOURHOODS

#### **GOAL**

LOOKING FOR INITIATIVES TO INCREASE THE SOCIAL ATTACHMENT

#### **LITERATURE**

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IS STRONGLY RELATED TO SOCIAL ATTACHMENT** 



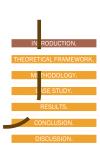
CONTEXT.

Context: DISADVANTAGED NEIGHBOURHOODS



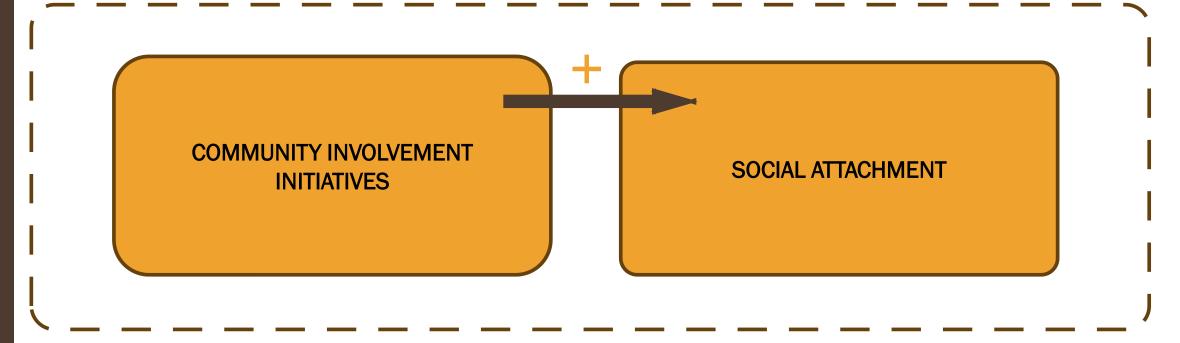
#### IN THIS RESEARCH

EVALUATION OF INITIATIVES FOCUSED ON COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND THEIR EFFECT ON THE SOCIAL ATTACHMENT



CONTEXT.

Context: DISADVANTAGED NEIGHBOURHOODS



MAIN RESEARCH QUESTION.

What can be learned from

#### INITIATIVES FOCUSED ON COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

and their effect on the

**SOCIAL ATTACHMENT** 

in

#### **DISADVANTAGED NEIGHBOURHOODS**

in the Netherlands

)



MAIN RESEARCH QUESTION.

What can be learned from

initiatives focused on community involvement

and their effect on the

social attachment

in

disadvantaged neighbourhoods

in the Netherlands

7



MAIN RESEARCH QUESTION.

1. social attachment

2. initiatives focused on community involvement

## THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK. SOCIAL ATTACHMENT.

#### Place attachment

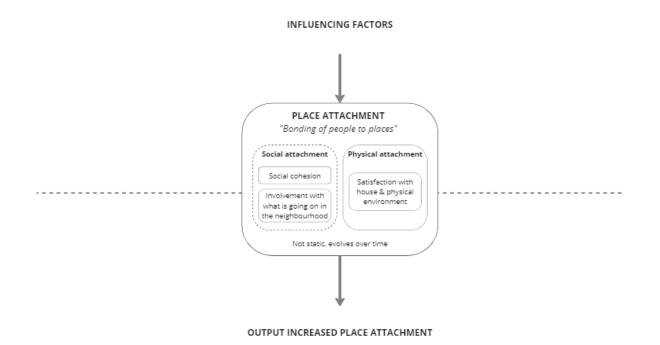
"An emotional bond or connection that individuals form with their neighbourhood or local community, encompassing both the physical and social aspects of attachment"

(Van der Graaf, 2009)



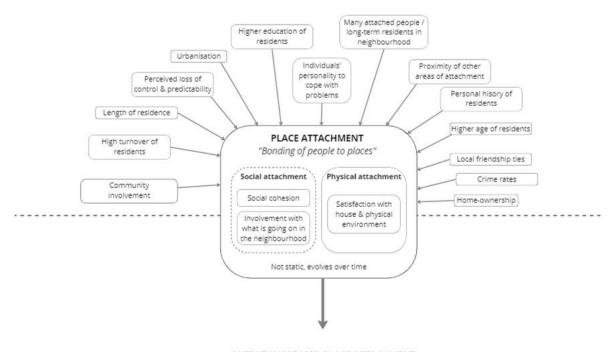






#### SOCIAL ATTACHMENT & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT.

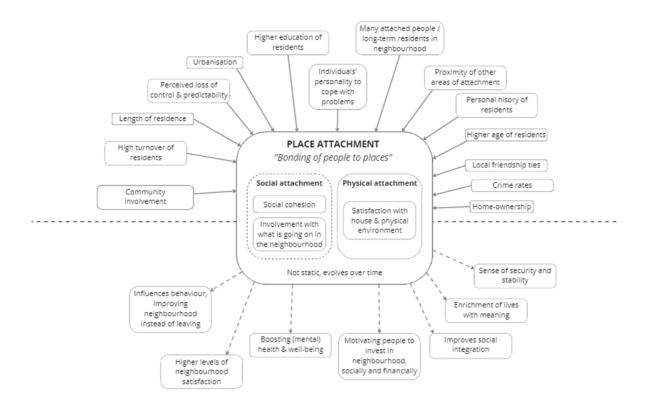
#### INFLUENCING FACTORS



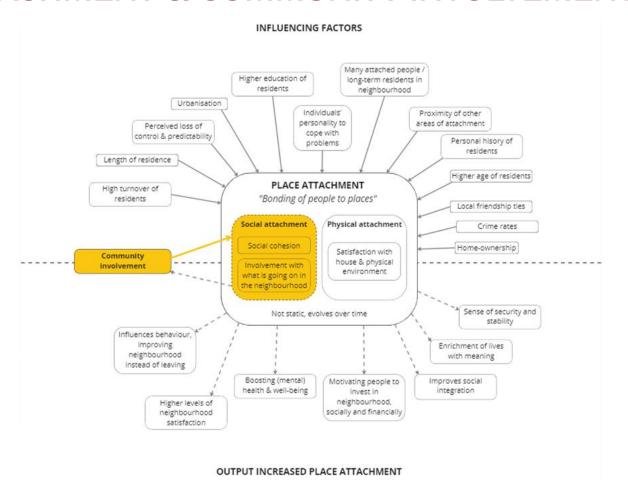
OUTPUT INCREASED PLACE ATTACHMENT

#### SOCIAL ATTACHMENT & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT.

#### INFLUENCING FACTORS

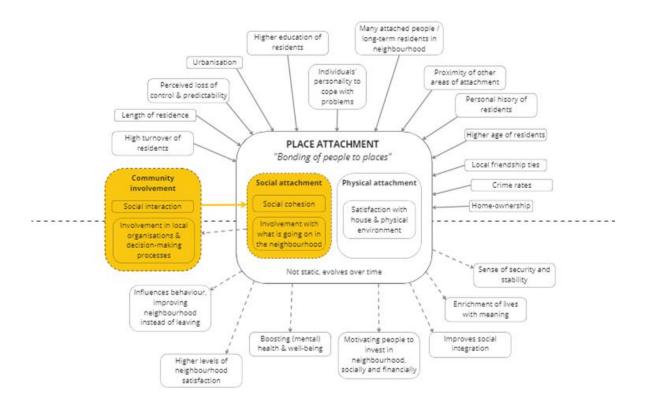


OUTPUT INCREASED PLACE ATTACHMENT



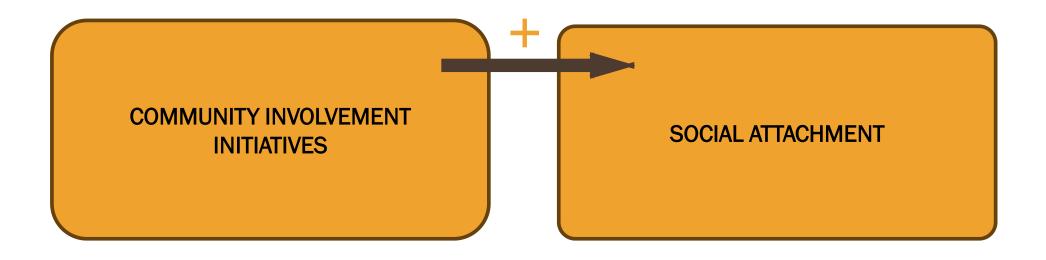
#### SOCIAL ATTACHMENT & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT.

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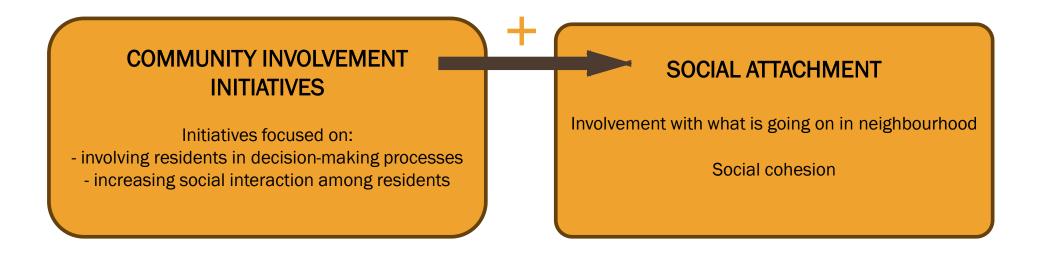


OUTPUT INCREASED PLACE ATTACHMENT

SUMMARY.



SUMMARY.



## METHODOLOGY.

#### METHODOLOGY.

MAIN RESEARCH QUESTION.

What can be learned from

initiatives focused on community involvement

and their effect on the

social attachment

in

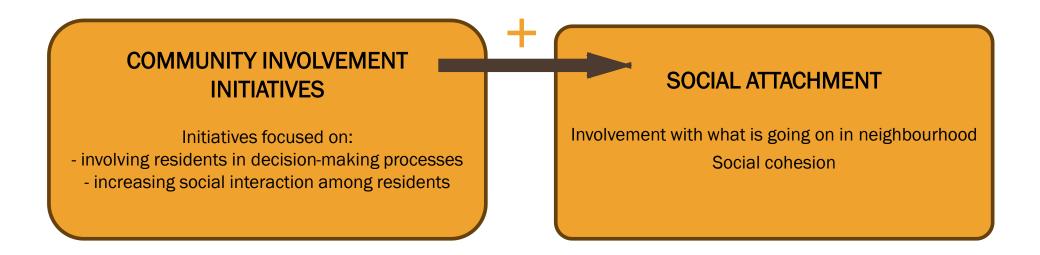
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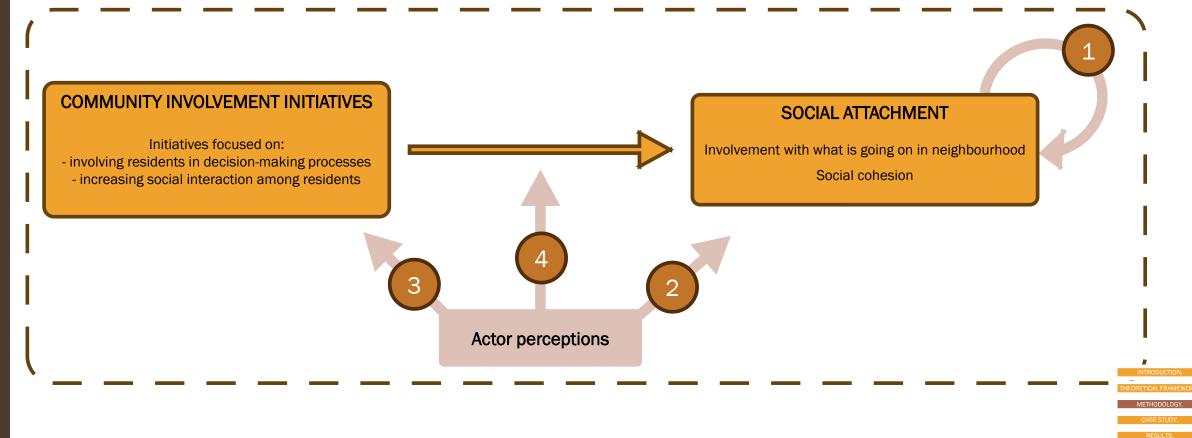
## METHODOLOGY. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK.



#### METHODOLOGY.

#### CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK.

#### **DISADVANTAGED NEIGHBOURHOODS**



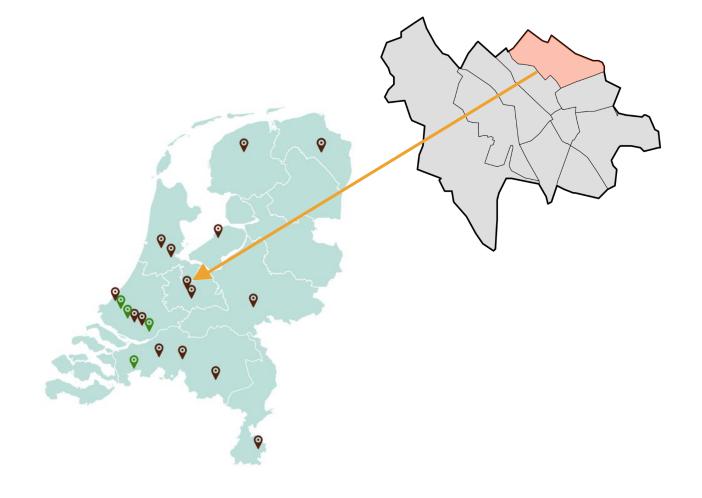
#### METHODOLOGY.

#### SUB QUESTIONS.

- How have the different dimensions of social attachment of disadvantaged neighbourhoods changed over the past few years?
- What is the perception of various actors on the trend of social attachment in disadvantaged neighbourhoods, and what factors influence the social attachment the most?
- What is the perception of various actors on what can be learned from initiatives focused on community involvement that have been implemented in disadvantaged neighbourhoods?
- What is the perception of various actors on to what extent the initiatives focused on community involvement contribute to developing stronger social attachment in disadvantaged neighbourhoods?

#### CASE SELECTION: UTRECHT OVERVECHT.

Stad	Gebied/wijk	
Amsterdam	Zuidoost	
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Lelystad	Oost	
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Roosendaal	-stad	
Rotterdam	Zuid	
Schiedam	Nieuwland-Oost	
Tilburg	Noordwest	
Utrecht	Overvecht	
Vlaardingen	West	
Zaandam	Oost	



#### CASE SELECTION: UTRECHT OVERVECHT.

- Utrecht is 4th biggest city in the Netherlands
- 35,000 residents in Overvecht
- Diverse population, high percentage with foreign background
- Over 17,000 homes in Overvecht
  - 79% multi-family housing
  - 'Tienhoogflats' Iow WOZ



#### CASE SELECTION: UTRECHT OVERVECHT.

- Low education level
- 11% low income (in NL 4%)
- High crime rate, but deceasing
- 58% experiences loneliness
- Low social trust: 56% trusts people generally (71% in Utrecht)



#### CASE STUDY.

#### POLICY HISTORY UTRECHT OVERVECHT.

- 10 years of 'Krachtwijkenaanpak'
- 3 years of 'De Versnelling Overvecht'
- 5 years of 'Samen voor Overvecht'
- Lots of initiatives focused on community involvement





# RESULTS. CONTENT.



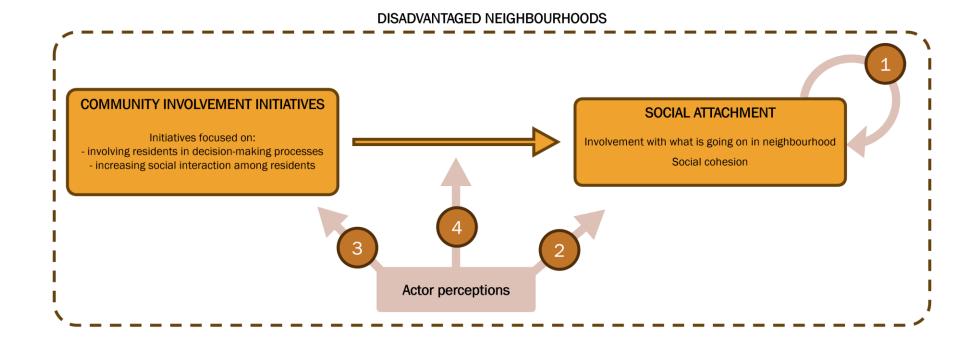


QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS.

QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS - INTERVIEWS.

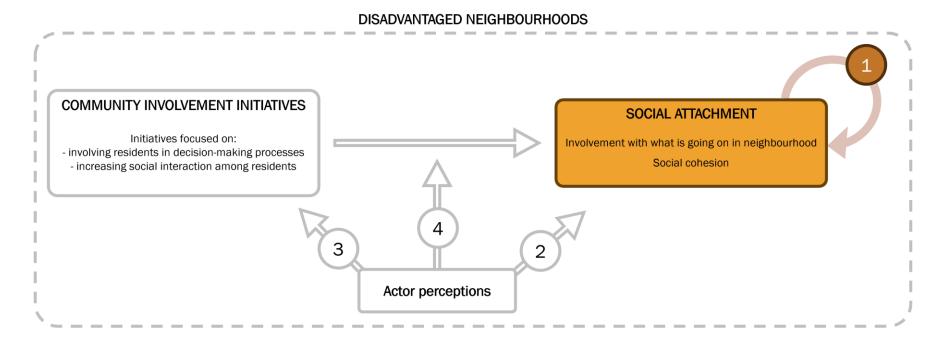


## RESULTS. CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK.



#### QUANTITATIVE DATA ANALYSIS.

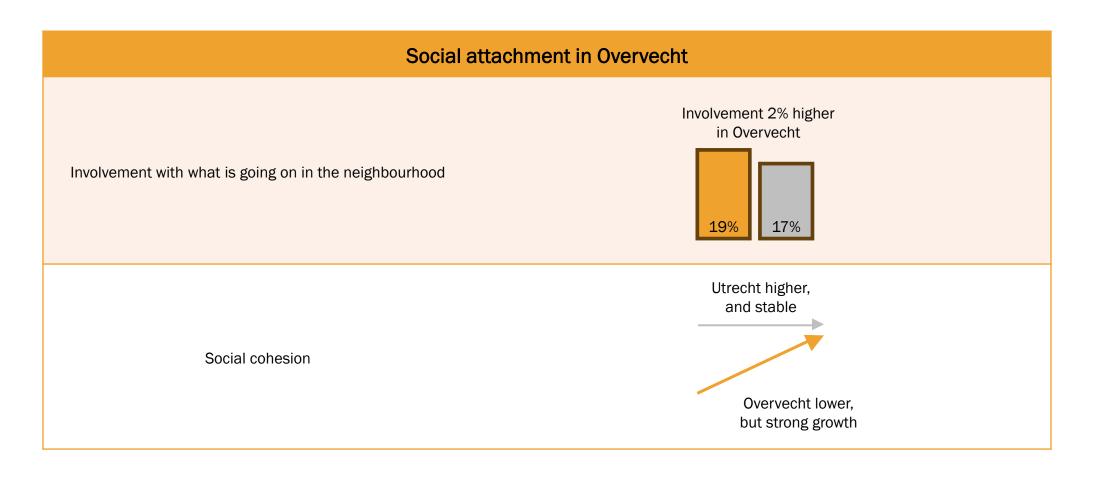
How have the different dimensions of social attachment of disadvantaged neighbourhoods changed over the past few years?



# DISADVANTAGED NEIGHBOURHOODS COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT INITIATIVES Initiatives floosand air: I-moduling residents in decessor making processes increasing social interaction among residents Increasing social interaction among residents 3 4 2 Actor perceptions

#### RESULTS.

#### MEASURING SOCIAL ATTACHMENT IN UTRECHT OVERVECHT.

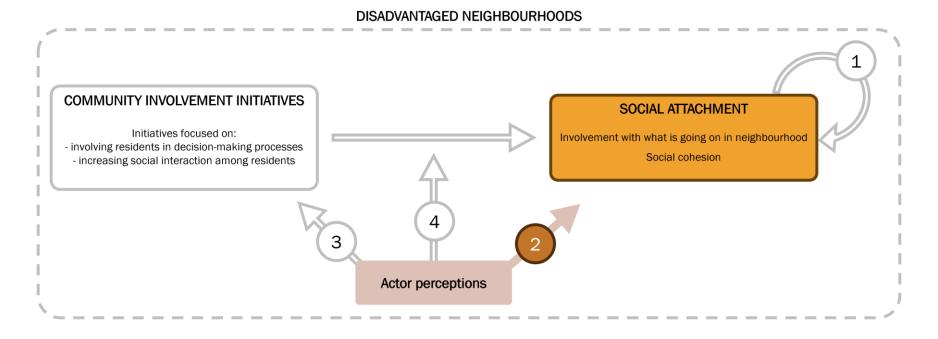


#### **CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK.**

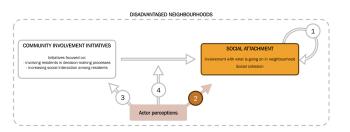
# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT INITIATIVES Initiatives focused on: - involving residents in decision-making processes - increasing social interaction among residents 4 Actor perceptions

#### **CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK.**

What is the perception of various actors on the trend of social attachment in disadvantaged neighbourhoods, and what factors influence the social attachment the most?



## RESULTS. INTRODUCTION OF THE INTERVIEWEES.



Municipality

Well-being organization

Housing association

11 interviews

Wijkbureau

Buurtteam

Project manager / participation

Resident connector

INTRODUCTION.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK.

METHODOLOGY.

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# DISADVANTAGED NEIGHBOURHOODS COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT INITIATIVES Initiatives focused on: - involving residents in decision making processes - increasing social interaction among residents Actor perceptions

#### RESULTS.

#### SQ2 - ACTOR PERCEPTIONS ON SOCIAL ATTACHMENT.

Actor perceptions on trend of social attachment			
	Involvement with what is going on in the neighbourhood	Social cohesion	
	Large differences per sub-neighbourhood / block 'Invisible' residents		
Trend of social attachment	High involvement, but not representative  Most involved: long-term residents & recently moved  Higher involvement on small scale	Low social cohesion  Heterogeneous neighbourhood → 'bubbles'  'Bubbles' not mixing	

# DISADVANTAGED NEIGHBOURHOODS COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT INITIATIVES Initiatives focused on: - involving residents in decision-making processes - increasing social interaction among residents Actor perceptions

#### RESULTS.

#### SQ2 - ACTOR PERCEPTIONS ON SOCIAL ATTACHMENT.

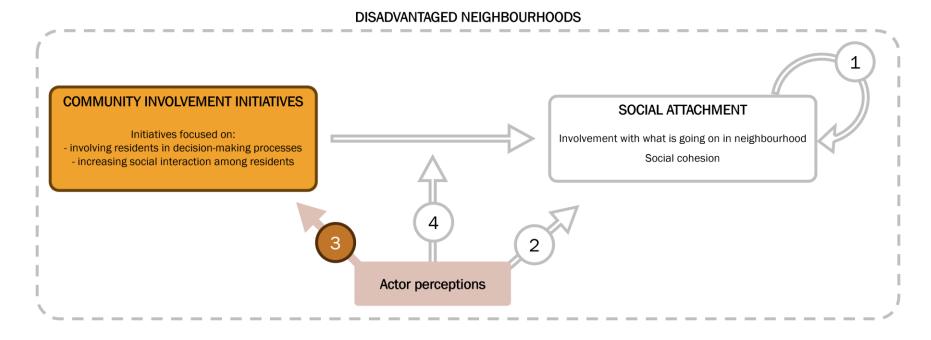
Actor perceptions on influencing factors of social attachment			
	Involvement with what is going on in the neighbourhood	Social cohesion	
	+ Less vulnerable residents proportionally		
Positive factors	+ Results of investments in liveability, safety and social networks		
	+ Community oriented cultures		
	+ Proud of neighbourhood	+ Initiatives focused on bringing people together	
	+ Many unemployed / retired residents		
Negative factors	- Vulnerable residents in 'survival mode'		
	- Cultural differences & language barriers		
	- Rapid flow of residents		
	- Low trust in governmental institutions	- Heterogeneous neighbourhood	

#### **CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK.**

# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT INITIATIVES Initiatives focused on: - involving residents in decision-making processes - increasing social interaction among residents Actor perceptions

#### **CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK.**

What is the perception of various actors on what can be learned from initiatives focused on community involvement that have been implemented in disadvantaged neighbourhoods?



# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT INITIATIVES Initiatives focused on: -involving residents in decision-residing processus increasing should referent the months of the state spang on in reighbourhood social cohesion 3 4 2 Actor perceptions

#### RESULTS.

### SQ3 – ACTOR PERCEPTIONS ON COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT INITIATIVES.

#### Lessons learned from community involvement initiatives

Initiatives that are focused on:

involving residents in decision-making processes

increasing social interaction among residents

Rebuilding trust between residents and institutions

Physical presence

Building on & combining existing successful initiatives

Transparency and mutual trust

Flexibility in process

Early and inclusive involvement

Small-scale and understandable processes

Low threshold

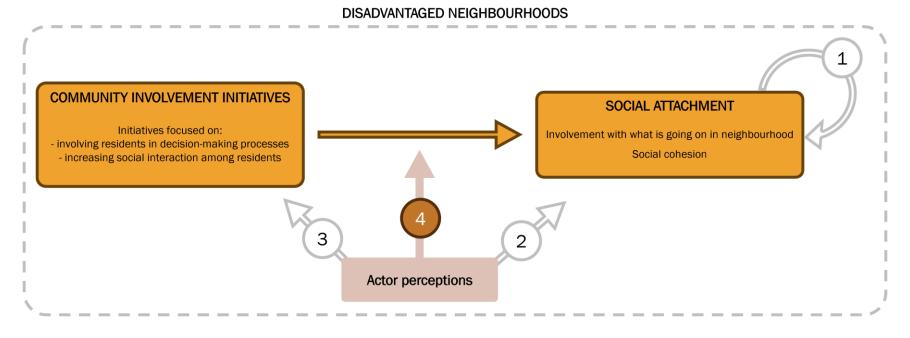
Structural embedding

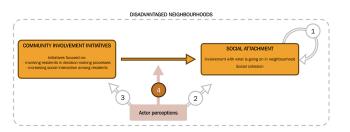
#### CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK.

# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT INITIATIVES Initiatives focused on: - involving residents in decision-making processes - increasing social interaction among residents Social cohesion Actor perceptions

#### **CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK.**

What is the perception of various actors on to what extent the initiatives focused on community involvement contribute to developing stronger social attachment in disadvantaged neighbourhoods?





## SQ4 – ACTOR PERCEPTIONS ON SOCIAL ATTACHMENT & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT INITIATIVES.

#### Influence of community involvement initiatives on social attachment

Community involvement initiatives contribute to social attachment

**Structurally embedded initiatives** → sustainable results

Focusing solely on initiatives is insufficient: broader social issues need to be resolved simultaneously

Rebuilding trust important

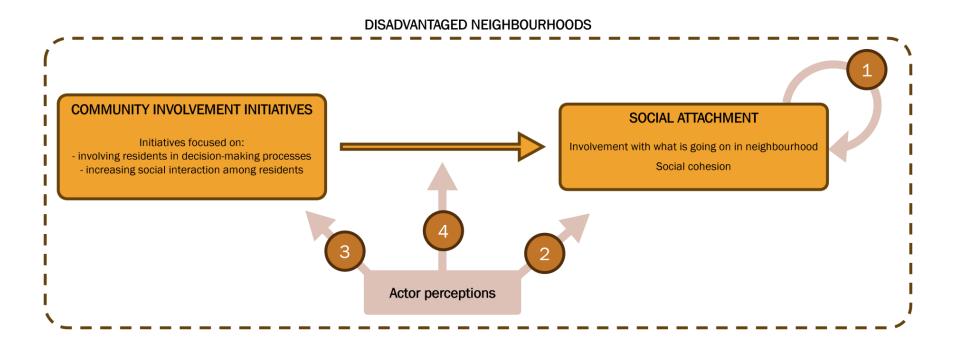


## CONCLUSION.

#### CONCLUSION.

#### MAIN RESEARCH QUESTION.

What can be learned from initiatives focused on community involvement and the effect on the social attachment in disadvantaged neighbourhoods in the Netherlands?



# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT INITIATIVES Initiatives focused on: -involving residents in docusion easing processes -increasing social interaction among residents 3 Actor perceptions

# CONCLUSION. MAIN RESEARCH QUESTION.

What can be learned from initiatives focused on community involvement and the effect on the social attachment in disadvantaged neighbourhoods in the Netherlands?

- Community involvement initiatives contribute to stronger social attachment
- However:
  - Initiatives need to be structurally embedded
  - Broader social issues need to be tackled simultaneously
  - Mutual trust needs to be rebuilt
    - Transparency in process
    - Genuine interest
    - Small-scale projects
    - Personal approach

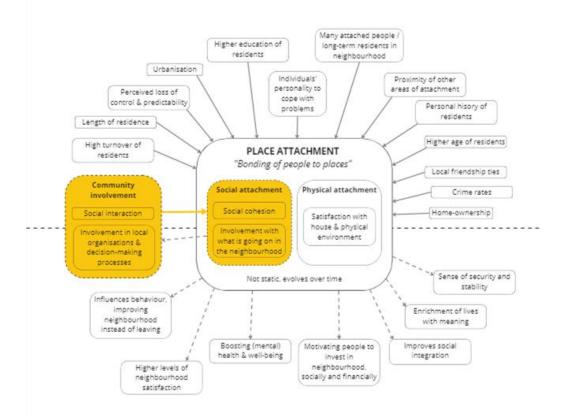


## DISCUSSION.

#### DISCUSSION.

#### INTERPRETATIONS.

#### INFLUENCING FACTORS



- Almost all factors from literature mentioned by actors in interviews
- Lack of trust important influencing factor of community involvement

**OUTPUT INCREASED PLACE ATTACHMENT** 



## DISCUSSION. LIMITATIONS.



AVAILABILITY LITERATURE SOCIAL ATTACHMENT.



ONE CASE STUDY.



NO RESIDENTS INVOLVED IN INTERVIEWS.



ACTOR BIAS ABOUT CERTAIN TOPICS.



INVISIBILITY OF NON-ATTACHED RESIDENTS IN DATA.



#### DISCUSSION.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS FURTHER RESEARCH.

Lack of trust

Invisibility of residents

Missing residents' perspective

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK.

METHODOLOGY.

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RECOMMENDATIONS.

### RECOMMENDATIONS.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS.

#### FOR PRACTICE.

#### SOCIAL ATTACHMENT

Involvement with what is going on in neighbourhood Social cohesion

RECOMMENDATIONS for successful COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT INITIATIVES and increasing SOCIAL ATTACHMENT in disadvantaged neighbourhoods			
Involvement with what is going on	Social cohesion		
1. Enhance transparency and communication	6. Leverage existing successful initiatives		
2. Foster flexibility in the process and sincere interest	7. Ensure structural embedding of initiatives		
3. Encourage early and inclusive involvement	8. Balance social group dynamics		
4. Focus on small-scale, tangible projects			
5. Promote ownership and responsibility			
9. Address broader social issues simultaneously			
10. Organise low-threshold social activities			
11. Maintain a strong physical presence			

## THANK YOU.