The position of housing associations in the disaster relief

The objective of this research is to clarify the position and tasks of housing associations in the disaster relief. A clarification is necessary in order that municipalities and housing associations can act efficient together in the disaster relief.

How do housing associations have to position them when there is an incident in their property and what needs to be improved in the current legislation or instruments for an efficient response?

In this research a theoretical and an empirical research has been conducted. In the theoretical research the positions and tasks of housing associations has been researched within the legal framework. The tasks of housing associations has been re-search in the instruments that are provided by Aedes. In the empirical research the findings of the theoretical research are being compared with the findings of the empirical research. In the empirical research two case studies are conducted. The first case study observed the position and tasks of Woonbron after an explosion. In the second case study the position and tasks of WoonFriesland are being observed after the collapse of walk-ways in a flat.

Based on the finding from the theoretical research it can be concluded that housing associations should position them as disaster relief partner. Mainly because housing associations do legally not have the responsibilities, the tasks and the power to act in the disaster relief. From the empirical research the same conclusion can be made that housing associations should not position themselves as a disaster relief actor. Leave the disaster relief to those who are trained, are responsible and have power. Do not carry out action where the responsibility belongs to a disaster relief actor, to avoid negative consequences if it turns out bad. Act as a disaster relief partner by providing alternative dwellings, if the municipality request assistance. Besides that a housing association can act as an informer and provide information of tenants or building information. To define the tasks and position for housing associations, the Aedes emergency response playbook has to be updated. To define the position and task of housing associations for the municipalities, the housing programme pact need to be updated. The Vereniging van Nederlandse Gemeenten plays a large role in this improvement. In the successor of 'Van Woonvisie naar Prestatieafspraken' the position and tasks of housing associations should be described.