

WRC network event, Middelburg

Stakeholder Engagement, Added Value and Long Term Impact

6th November 2018

Water Resilient Cities partnership held the third of its network meetings in Middelburg. Members of the three European projects on climate change were invited: Water Resilient Cities, Scape and Sponge2020. Almost 100 participants - from Belgium, France, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom – joined together to share knowledge about involving stakeholders and their added value in the long term. Speakers from all four countries presented best practices and technical innovations developed through practical experiences.

“Together we make the city rainproof” by Irene Poortinga

Considering that rain falls everywhere – on streets, squares, rooftops - making the city cloudburst-resilient is a process that involves everyone. Amsterdam Rainproof uses a network strategy to connect and activate all parties that can contribute to creating a city that is more resilient. The network consist of numerous people: residents, property owners, civil servants, entrepreneurs, housing corporations, insurers and so on. As an initiator of this network, Rainproof shares knowledge and information, refers and connects people and initiates and supports projects. Together we make the city rainproof. Every drop counts.

“An Interactive Loyalty Ladder” by Gerard van Keken

An evaluation of an interactive engagement process provide insights in the collaboration process between stakeholders? One of the main questions in these research is, what the added value for the stakeholders could be. How they would evaluate the planning process? What their future engagement role could be.

“Engaging stakeholders across Leicester” by Chryse Tinsley

Chryse Tinsley, Landscape Architect and Planner from Leicester City Council is also the CIRIA SUDs champion. She has undertaken several community engagement projects. Leicester is a diverse city in the UK with a number of different religions and a wide demographic. She will provide an overview of how the council use natural infrastructure projects to foster cohesion and engage and enthuse the broad range of citizens who live, work and play across be city using high quality case studies.

“From NIMBY to PIMBY in the Polders of Kruibeke project” by Stefaan Nollet

Stefaan is an engineer who works for the Flemish Waterway, a main Flemish water board authority, and has over 20 years of experience. Since 1996, he’s been the project manager of the Polders of Kruibeke, a project in which a 600 ha flood control area has been created near the city of Antwerp as a means to protect the valley of the river Scheldt against flooding. When he started the construction of the flood area, heated discussions and protests about the area were daily business however, the Polders of Kruibeke were officially opened in 2015, and are now considered to be a must-see location in the area!

“SPONGE2020 Toolkit” by Yill Vogelesang-Havers

Our Interreg sister project, SPONGE2020 has developed a toolkit to support professionals with sustainable urban drainage schemes. Covering the entire process from initial planning to public engagement, find out how to use this toolkit to your advantage.