



GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

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City Deal Kennis Maken (City Deal on Education)

The undersigned:

1. the Network of Cities of Knowledge in the Netherlands, represented in this matter by the mayor of Leiden, H.J.J. Lenferink;
2. the Ministers of Education, Culture and Science M. Bussemaker (hereinafter the minister of OCW) and of the Interior and Kingdom Relations, R.H.A. Plasterk (hereinafter the minister of BZK), each acting in his/her capacity of administrative body and jointly referred to as the Central Government;
3. the VSNU (the Association of Universities), represented in this matter by its chair, K.L.L.M. Dittrich;
4. the Vereniging Hogescholen (the Association of Universities of Applied Sciences), represented in this matter by its vice-chair, G.M.C. de Ranitz;
5. Kences, represented in this matter by its vice-chair, S.M.E. Deenen;
6. the municipal executives of the municipalities:
 - Delft, represented in this matter by the alderman responsible for finance, youth care, education and services, A.H. Hekker;
 - Enschede, represented in this matter by the mayor, G.O. van Veldhuizen;
 - Groningen, represented in this matter by the city manager, also member of the Groningen Management Team, S.W.T. Gerritsen;
 - Leiden, represented in this matter by the mayor, H.J.J. Lenferink;
 - Maastricht, represented in this matter by the mayor, J.M. Penn-te Strake;
 - Nijmegen, represented in this matter by the alderman responsible for districts, public space, education, early school leaving, sports and accommodations, R.D. Helmer-Englebert;
 - Rotterdam, represented in this matter by the mayor, A. Aboutaleb;
 - Tilburg, represented in this matter by the alderman responsible for education, youth, emancipation, culture and personnel and organisation, M.T.M. Hendrickx; and
 - Wageningen, represented in this matter by the alderman responsible for participation, economy, finance and public works, D.M. Gudden;all acting in their capacity of administrative body, hereinafter referred to as cities of knowledge;
7. Erasmus University Rotterdam, represented in this matter by the president of the executive board, K.F.B. Baele;
8. HAN University of Applied Sciences, represented in this matter by the president of the executive board, C.P. Boele;
9. Radboud University, represented in this matter by the rector magnificus, J.H.J.M. Krieken;
10. University of Groningen, represented in this matter by the president of the executive board, S. Poppema;
11. Saxion, represented in this matter by the member of the executive board, H.G.M. van Oldeniel;
12. Tilburg University, represented in this matter by the president of the executive board, K.M. Becking;
13. University of Twente, represented in this matter by the president of the executive board, V. van der Chijs

hereinafter jointly referred to as the Parties;

Whereas

General context Urban Agenda

- a. The Central Government cooperates through so-called "City Deals" with cities and urban networks on the implementation of the Urban Agenda, which is aimed at enhancing the capacity for growth and innovation as well as the quality of life in cities with participation of knowledge institutes and business sector, to thus increase the competitiveness and growth potential of the Dutch urban network.
- b. City Deals distinguish themselves for 1) formulating an appealing ambition with respect to one or more major social challenges, 2) organising urban regional strength (synergies of mass/scale through cooperation between and/or within urban regions); 3) involving various public and private parties (including the Central Government); 4) being innovative and aimed at breakthroughs, for example by giving a different shape to existing systems, and 5) being appealing and widely applicable at national and international level.
- c. The Urban Agenda acquired an international context through the Pact of Amsterdam (2016): *The Urban Agenda for the EU will contribute to enhancing the knowledge base on urban issues and exchange of best practices and knowledge. Reliable data is important for portraying the diversity of structures and tasks of Urban Authorities, for evidence-based urban policy making, as well as for providing tailor-made solutions to major challenges.*



- d. In the position paper 'Power of Knowledge, position paper for the Urban Agenda', the Network of Cities of Knowledge in the Netherlands described its mission within the framework of the Urban Agenda. The network describes how it intends to contribute to the capacity for innovation of cities through a symbiosis of city and knowledge, jointly developing test beds, science parks and warm welcome facilities. This is in line with the importance that the European Urban Agenda attaches to evidence-based urban policy.

Context of City Deal Kennis Maken

- a. Major cities come up with solutions for major social challenges, such as care, poverty, social inclusion, migration, energy transition, health, digitisation or dichotomy in the labour market, and economic challenges, such as the creation of a business climate and employment. At the same time, major cities are breeding grounds for new ideas and concepts, new forms of social, cultural and economic activity. Circulation of knowledge is indispensable for solving social problems and for encouraging new activities. The cities in the Network of Cities of Knowledge in the Netherlands have a unique starting position for circulating knowledge, because they have universities, universities of applied sciences and ROCs (regional training centres) within their boundaries. These cities distinguish themselves from other cities by their relatively young and highly-educated population. Large numbers of students, lecturers and researchers, also from abroad, contribute to the urban dynamics.
- b. In many places, triple and quadruple helix partnerships¹ have come, or are coming, into being, in which researchers, lecturers and students of universities and universities of applied sciences contribute to the solution of social problems in major cities. Examples are the Knowledge Workshops in Rotterdam, the Field Laboratories in Amsterdam and the Academy of the City.
- c. At the same time, it is clear that these initiatives involve only a relatively small number of the students, lecturers and researchers. A City Deal can bring sustainability in a quadruple helix, resulting in a movement that involves many more students, lecturers and researchers in solving urban problems than are currently involved.
- d. It is important for a city's capacity for innovation that it has a strong relationship with knowledge institutes and that researchers, lecturers and students are involved in solving social problems. Not only to strengthen the problem-solving ability of the city, but also because it contributes to the training of the students of the future - who will contribute to shaping society - and gives them a better understanding of social issues. Using the society as a rich learning environment for students is therefore an important theme in the Strategic Agenda Higher Education and Research 2015-2025, "The value(s) of knowledge", which describes the ambitions of the Ministry of OCW for higher education in the Netherlands. Starting point is that education, research and practice are always connected with each other in the rich learning environment. The idea is that students formulate the relevant research questions together with researchers and the field (businesses, government, social institutions, citizens' initiatives, etc.), carry out further research into urban problems and evaluate whether assumed problem-solving approaches are effective. This can have different shapes, such as community service, knowledge workshops, urban laboratories, student housing in the learning environment itself (e.g. house students between holders of a residence permit). Cooperation can take place in multidisciplinary and multilevel (multiple types of education, such as senior secondary, higher professional and scientific level) teams, and within the framework of triple and quadruple helix partnerships.
- e. The focus of this City Deal is primarily on involving students, researchers and teachers in urban challenges in rich learning environments. This City Deal is explicitly not about campus development.

Agree

Purpose

With the City Deal **Kennis Maken**, the Parties intend to accelerate the solution of social challenges of cities through large-scale involvement of researchers, lecturers and students. The Parties regard this on the one hand as a form of making use of knowledge and on the other hand as making the city available as a learning environment for students. Talent development and entrepreneurship and the promotion of social commitment are paramount.

¹ Triple helix: partnership between 3 parties, namely government, education and business sector, with the aim to take new steps in a certain area. Quadruple helix: also the customer, for instance the citizen, is involved in the partnership between government, education and business sector.



Development Challenges 2017-2021 and commitment of the Parties

To achieve the desired result more quickly, the Parties agree to achieve the following results before the end of 2021:

1. *Cooperation of urban authorities and directors of universities and universities of applied sciences on urban themes*
 - The cities of knowledge shall establish a (sustainable) partnership between urban authorities and directors of universities and universities of applied sciences.
 - The cities of knowledge shall invite other cities to follow their example.
 - The Network of Cities of Knowledge in the Netherlands shall discuss the ambition of partnerships with its members in order to have more cities join this City Deal.
 - Each city of knowledge shall draw up a strategic agenda in 2017 in which it specifies the urban themes that need to be addressed first. These themes shall preferably link up with the themes in the position paper of the Network Cities of Knowledge in the Netherlands or with the themes in the EU Urban Agenda (Pact of Amsterdam), and overlap as little as possible with other city deals.
 - The cities of knowledge shall designate a leader for each theme in 2017.
 - The cities of knowledge
 - shall make a start with the discussion on how to involve more students, researchers and lecturers in urban themes and
 - work out what added value this will have for each of the parties: what will it bring the city in terms of knowledge and solutions, what will it bring researchers, lecturers and students in terms of learning and working environment, study credits, internships and traineeships in the city.
 - The cities of knowledge shall ensure that the partnerships have become concrete and are functioning in 2019, or at the latest in 2020.
 - Both the urban authorities of the cities of knowledge and the relevant universities and universities of applied sciences shall make expert capacity available.
 - The Network of Cities of Knowledge in the Netherlands and the Ministers of BZK and OCW each consider to make € 30,000 available for establishing the partnership between cities and knowledge institutes.
 - Where appropriate, the Minister of the BZK will act as contact for involving other ministries and will coordinate with respect to issues and consultations within the framework of the EU Urban Agenda. The Minister of the BZK will organise an Urban Agenda Table with the Parties about this City Deal.
 - The Minister of OCW will act as contact for ideas on how to handle barriers and make use of opportunities in respect of the establishment of a rich learning environment that involves more students, researchers and lecturers. Where possible, she will make use of their network. The Minister of OCW will provide support by initiating research projects. One can think of research into the effect on the structure of education (for example: will it be necessary to develop a fundamentally different curriculum throughout the education system, or will it be enough to develop a specific educational concept or create the right environment for an already existing curriculum?), and research into elements that define the chance of success of (urban) rich learning environments.
 - The VSNU and the Vereniging Hogescholen will organise a discussion with universities and universities of applied sciences about the ambition to involve more students, researchers and lecturers in solving urban issues and, within that framework, the creation of a rich learning environment.
 - Kences will provide knowledge, time and labour. Kences will thus contribute to the search for forms of housing that provide a rich learning environment (for example: a combination of lower rents and social duties) and the search for sufficient and affordable housing for international students.
2. *Embedding success formulas, exchanging and monitoring progress*
 - This City Deal should develop from an ambition document into a proven and visibly successful approach. The Parties intend to build as much as possible on successful practices of partners in the partnership. Experiences will be exchanged and the progress of this City Deal will be monitored.
 - The Minister of BZK will communicate on the results (strategic agendas, research, meetings, new parties) of this City Deal via the Urban Agenda channels (website, social media, etc.).
 - The VSNU and the Vereniging Hogescholen will also communicate on the results of this City Deal via their websites.
 - This City Deal will make the success formulas of rich learning environments visible. The Minister of OCW will make an overview of initiatives in cities of knowledge where the concept of "the society as a learning environment" has been implemented and the results thereof.
 - Cities of knowledge will organise meetings within the framework of this City Deal. The partnership of a city of knowledge will show at such a meeting where the concept of "the society as a learning environment" has been implemented and what the results thereof are. Nijmegen will start with this.



Final provisions

Effective date and term

This City Deal will enter into effect on the day following the signing by all Parties and end on 31 December 2021.

Accession

A city that wishes to accede shall send a written request to the Network of Cities of Knowledge in the Netherlands. As soon as the Parties have consented in writing, the acceding party will be granted the status of party to the City Deal and the agreements regarding the City Deal will apply, on the understanding that 2017 may be read as 2018 and that the partnership may also be aimed at the urban authorities and one or more directors of only universities or only universities of applied sciences. The request for accession and the statement of consent will be attached to this City Deal as an appendix and form an integral part of it.

Evaluation and termination of participation

- The Parties will evaluate the progress of this City Deal in 2018 and will then also look forward. The Minister of OCW will take the initiative for the evaluation. The evaluation moment is also the moment when parties may terminate their participation.
- The Parties agree that the agreements in this City Deal cannot be enforced in court.
- Publicity

This City Deal will be published together with other City Deals that have been concluded, so that the general public can taken note of the existing City Deals. The Minister of BZK will report to Parliament on the Urban Agenda and the City Deals arising from it.



Thus agreed and signed in duplicate in Wageningen, 16 March 2017

H.J.J. Lenferink

M. Bussemaker

R.H.A. Plasterk

K.L.L.M. Dittrich

G. M.C. de Ranitz

S. M.E. Deenen

Delft

A.H. Hekker

Enschede

V. van der Chijs

H. G.M. van Oldeniel

G. O. van Veldhuizen

Groningen

S.W.T. Gerritsen

S. Poppema

Leiden

H. J.J. Lenferink

Maastricht

J.M. Penn-te Strake

Nijmegen

C. P. Boele

R.D. Helmer-Englebert

J.H.J.M. Krieken

Rotterdam

A. Aboutaleb

K.F.B. Baele

Tilburg

M.T.M. Hendrickx

K.M. Becking

Wageningen

D. M. Gudden