



Urban innovation

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355 municipalities
(2019)

- Housing & Spatial Planning
- Welfare
- Traffic and Mobility
- Environment
- Public Safety
- General Healthcare and Youth care (since January 2015)

'Co-operating with all municipalities, VNG stands tall for the empowerment and quality of local government', since 1912



VNG International are experts in strengthening local governments outside the Netherlands

Fields of expertise:

1. Building more effective public administration
2. Involving citizens in decision making
3. **Developing sustainable and resilient cities and communities**
4. Improving access to services
5. Dealing with conflict, fragility and migration



Some key developments at the municipal level

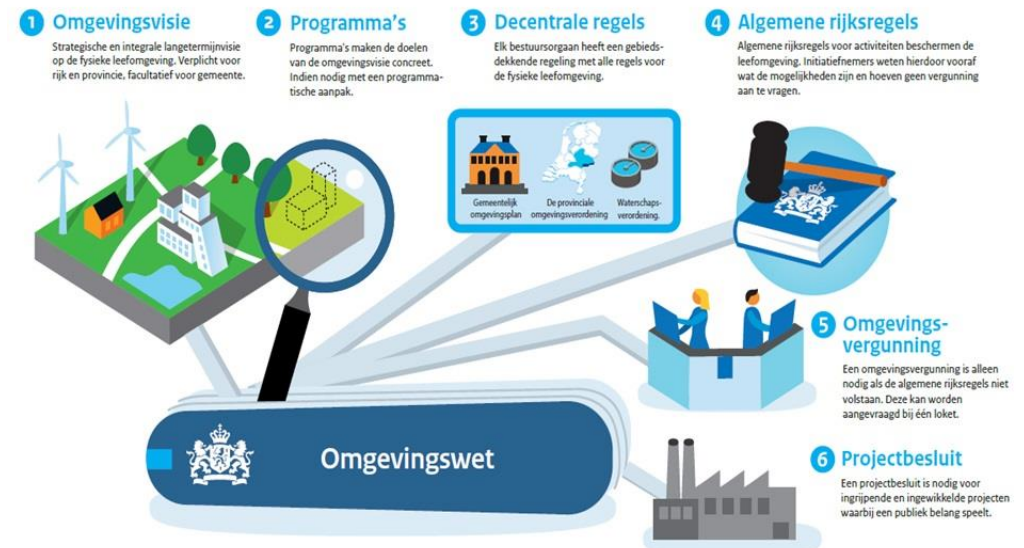
- Three decentralizations in the social domain (2015)
- New Territorial Planning Law (2018)
- Energy transition (National energy agreement) (2013)
- A circular economy in 2050 (Natural Resource Agreement 2017)



Governance trends

- The role of the local government increases, is more important and more complex
- There is a need for a collaborative and responsive municipality
- Increase of regional cooperation

More 'local', 'integral', 'flexible' and 'tailor-made'



Policy strategies

- National Urban Agenda & EU partnerships
 - City Deals
- City transformation programme
- Smart & Healthy city programme

- IBP: intergovernmental programme
 - Climate & Energy

- National Smart City Strategy

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Dutch Urban Agenda & City Deals

Agenda Stad

The recent **Dutch Urban Agenda** (Agenda Stad) aims to strengthen the growth, innovation, and quality of life in Dutch cities

City Deals are cooperative agreements between cities, central and other governments, private sector and CSOs to find solutions for pressing urban challenges.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5uuMT9R25cg>

Urban transformation programme (Housing)



Programmes

Smart & healthy City programme


















Environmental policy (air quality):
Ministry of Infrastructure and Water
Province of Utrecht
Municipality of Utrecht



Towards a common framework for urban development in the
European Union
Informal Meeting of EU Ministers Responsible for Urban Matters
Declaration of Ministers
Bucharest, 14 June 2019



 Monitoring of Actions	 Culture/Cultural Heritage	 Security in Public Spaces
 Sustainable Land Use	 Public Procurement	 Energy Transition
 Climate Adaptation	 Urban Mobility	 Digital Transition
 Circular Economy	 Jobs and Skills in the Local Economy	 Urban Poverty
 Inclusion of Migrants and Refugees	 Housing	 Air Quality

Intergovernmental Programme

- Energy neutral/**Energy transition**: National and decentralised government have a joined goal to achieve 49 % CO₂-reduction in 2030.
- Climate-proof/**Climate adaptation**: In 2050, The Netherlands is climate-proof and water resilient. In 2020, all sectors need to act climate-proof.
- Circular / **Circular economy**: A circular economy in The Netherlands in 2050.



Implementation of the ***joint investment agenda***
*'Towards a sustainable Netherlands' (Naar een
duurzaam Nederland')*

Sector tables for national climate agreement



Build environment



Agriculture and Land use



Industry



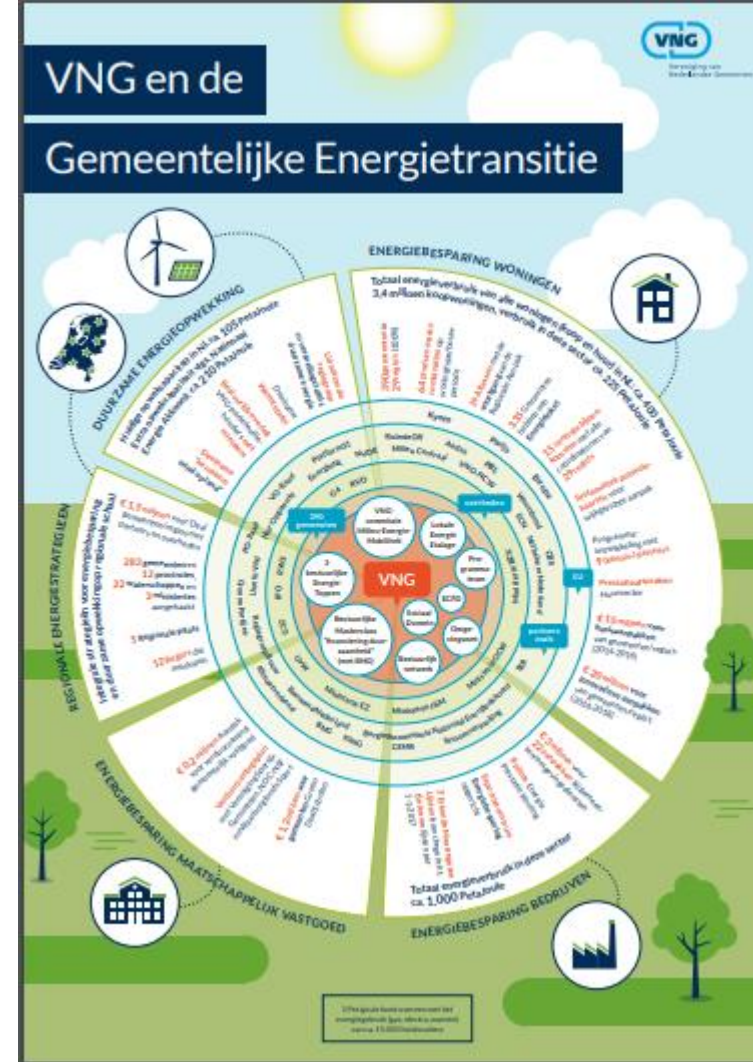
Electricity



Mobility

Regional Energy Strategy

- With the RES, regions are given the freedom to invest their task in terms of environmental policy for more renewable energy (renewable electricity and renewable heat) in a concrete way, whereby citizen participation is an elementary element.
- At the end of 2019 it will be clear how the regions will fulfill the national task.



Energy regions

Intergovernmental Agreement on Climate Adaptation

An agreement between:

- The National Government
- The Association of Netherlands Municipalities
- The Union of Dutch Water Authorities
- The Association of Netherlands Provinces



The national government has also initiated 'The Global Commission on Adaptation'
And The Netherlands will host the 2020 international 'Climate Adaptation Action Summit'

Source: <https://ruimtelijkeadaptatie.nl/actueel/actueel/nieuws/2018/bestuursakkoord/>

- To improve Dutch resilience to extreme weather conditions
- As a boost for the existing '*Deltaplan Ruimtelijke Adaptatie*'
- Allocating a concrete financial budget of €600 million to the program



Source: <https://ruimtelijkeadaptatie.nl/>



- Before the end of 2020, stresstests will be used to identify the most pressing climate related issues for **municipalities, provinces** and **water authorities**
- Before the end of 2020, suitable projects to address these problems will be designed
- The 'temporary impulse arrangement' will help speed up the implementation of climate adaptation plans by decentralised governments
- Subsidies will be provided for pilot projects and project support



Circular economy

- “The Netherlands Circular in 2050”- programme (intergovernmental) *“Nederland Circulair in 2050”*, (2016)
- Raw material agreement - Grondstoffenakkoord 2017
- 5 transition agendas Circular Economy: Biomass and food, plastics, manufacturing industry, construction and consumer goods. (January 2018)
- National Government Circular Economy Implementation Agenda (2018-2023) (June 2018)



Agreements to accelerate circular economy:

Regional implementation

- Governments develop regional circular economy strategies;
- Find opportunities to make circular initiative financially more attractive;
- All governments make agreements on circular procurement.

Buildings and infrastructure

- Governments develop a programme for circular procurement of buildings and infrastructure; exchange of information processes and content.
- Decentralised governments assure upscaling of initiatives for circular construction (renovation and demolition).
- National government gives information on the behavior that is requested from people in a circular economy and gives a good example.

City Deal - Circular Economy

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dNIXGmBiM9o>



EU Environment

- Circular economy: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IK00v_tzkCI



Smart Society

- Under the Smart Cities flag, local governments worldwide (often together with companies, citizens and institutions) use integrated and data-driven solutions to improve the quality of life, quality and competitiveness of the city. Larger municipalities and the VNG are working on the internationalization of the Dutch Smart Cities. This follows from the **Smart City Strategy**, which was offered to Prime Minister Rutte in early 2017.
- Principles for a digital city (2018)
- Smart City Living Lab
- Conference Netherlands Digital



Or a governance experiment... City Deals, City Labs



Find new solutions by:

- Using real problems for people as a starting point
- Analyzing from people's perspective
- Including stakeholders and actors

Key outcomes of this innovative method:

- A broad and inclusive understanding of a problem
- A shared ambition
- Experiments and new ways of working, without being afraid to make mistakes as you go



Confirm the shared goals in a City Deal: a signed agreement on working together for a better future.

Working together creates better insights and solutions and realizes a sustainable partnership.

We have seen this work, with positive long-term impact: You can become a leader in facing urban challenges creating growth, innovation and quality of life for all

It takes courage to do things differently, break with old routines and invite new faces to the table. Are you ready?

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<https://www.vng-international.nl/urban-innovation>