

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences

*Cultural differences
Theory & experiences*

Tips and tricks
For a more sustainable life

The importance of resilience:
A problem solving approach

SYMPOSIUM REVIEW

Arie Voorburg
On the future of resilience

2015





Resilience

Resilience is defined as the capacity of social, economic, and environmental systems to cope with a hazardous event or trend or disturbance, responding or reorganizing in ways that maintain their essential function, identity, and structure, while also maintaining the capacity for adaptation, learning, and transformation. (IPCC, 2014)

It refers to (1) the amount of disturbance that a system can absorb while still remaining within the same state or domain of attraction; (2) the degree to which the system is capable of self-organization (versus lack of organization or organization forced by external factors); and (3) the degree to which the system can build and increase its capacity for learning and adaptation. (Desouza and Flanery, 2013)

International Cooperation & Sustainable Development

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During a period of about four weeks we were able to put together a mixture of interesting perspectives on this year's theme, different experiences from students and an additional lifestyle section, just for you!

This is the second edition of the magazine created by students from the minor program; International Cooperation & Sustainable Development. The main theme of this year's project was resiliency in an urban environment. In this magazine you can explore what the theme is about by reading expert interviews, a background article and what students learned about resilience and how they practised it during their international projects in New York, Cape Verde, Brasil, Indonesia and Rotterdam.

We also thought it would be nice not only to inform you about the theme, but also to give you a guide to tips & tricks, hotspots, international food recipes and other lifestyle matters!

Finally, you will find the Symposium report, a summary of the January 29th Symposium held at the RDM Campus. The Symposium was organized by students of the minor program, to share results and knowledge from their international projects.

This magazine was put together with a lot of fun, time and effort. We hope you enjoy it as much as we did!

Editor in chief
Suzan Reiling

For this introduction we've spoken with the two important professionals within this minor. Without them, this minor wouldn't have been such a success. First of all, Marlies Bedeker (see picture below) coordinates the entire minor ICSD. We also have interviewed Leander Ernst who is responsible for the content of this year's theme: resiliency.

Marlies Bedeker is a lecturer at the department of Watermanagement and an educational researcher at Research Centre RDM. She coordinates the education program which consists of different modules. These modules are the support and guidance for projects carried out abroad. She also provides the minor program with professionals who can teach the students. It's her job to provide students with assignments, which they can relate to in the work field. Those assignments must be complex and challenging. Another of Marlies' responsibilities is to guide the students during the minor program, to give advice and help them if needed. Marlies really enjoys working with students who have a very clear image of what they want and are passionate about their subject. It is not just about work, it is also that you provide and accomplish something for the society at large.

The main goal of the minor program is to educate students so they can become the professionals who can use their profession in a different context. It is important that students are trained to place their field of profession in an international context and can make ethical accountability. Asking themselves why they do things the way they do. Our aim is to let students go home with the understanding that they can realize choices they have made and that they can keep up thinking and participating in substantive issues which are increasingly of a global nature. Skills which can be used are: cultural understanding and cooperating with international professionals.



This year's minor program is a fusion of two different minor programs. These programs: International Aid & Development and Rotterdam Green Capital, contained subjects that were relevant to the content of both minor programs such as climate change, urbanization etc. Climate change, for example, is not something you only find in Africa, but it also exists in Rotterdam – so why not network and exchange knowledge with each other? This has already happened a lot on an individual level amongst students, which has led to incremental steps for collaboration and emerged in the minor program International Cooperation & Sustainable Development. There is now more focus on substantive issues that cross boundaries and contain a global challenge.

“Make space for the things you want to accomplish, because you think it's important and not just because you have to do it. What do you stand for?”

Marlies has been very positive about the fusion this year but next year there will be some adjustments to the minor program. The international project will go from 15 to 20 ECTS and the other modules will be reduced by one ECTS, with the exception of the module Regional Elective, which will remain the same. This is due to the fact that the minor program allows more time to prepare the international project. The period for field research abroad will not be changed. Also, the idea is to offer the modules in a longer period of time, for example, to work on one module in a whole week instead of weekly classes. In this way students and lecturers can go into more depth and thus provide more room for preparation and understanding.

Marlies: “I would like students to stand out to do what they think is important to do. We need opinionated people who do things differently, in dialogue with their environment. The ambition of the minor program is that we offer education for social change. I hope that students claim their space and become critical agents of change. I believe that this world can use it well!

Make space for the things you want to accomplish, because you think it's important and not just because you have to do it. What do you stand for? Use your own profession and motivations to create your project.”

Marlies is satisfied when her students have done what they have aimed to do and know where they stand. With critical factors kept in mind of course.

*Written by Tim Knoote & Suzan Reiling
Photography Lucas van der Wee*

Leander Ernst is lecturer Watermanagement and researcher at the Knowledge Centre RDM. Previously he has coordinated the minor program Rotterdam Green Capital before he started the minor program ICSD with Marlies Bedeker. Leander is co-coordinator of the international projects and lectures series in the minor program. Lectures were given on resilience as the main theme. He has been teaching and working with students on a theoretical framework. He invited professors to talk about specific topics related to resilience and this theoretical framework. A topic that's close to his heart is water management. For example, he invited his colleague Rutger de Graaf, professor of Urban Water Management, to give a lecture on natural stresses such as climate change, flooding and earthquakes that can impact cities. Along with Marlies he coordinates the international projects, their assignments and lectures with professionals in their field of work. This year he supervised students who worked on a specific international project in the Maashaven, Rotterdam.

This year the main theme of the minor program was resiliency. Leander was responsible for the realization of the content of the theme in the minor program. Through individual research they tried to add an additional step in which students and lecturers could learn from each other so as to gain knowledge and expertise. In order to create this, they needed a general theme; so they worked together with professors and researchers from the RDM campus.

They eventually came up with resilience; a new and current topic. This theme can add towards gaining knowledge in specific subjects; it's one of the biggest factors for success. He says the following about resilience: "Resilience is one of

**"To be resilient you should
create an environment
where people can do new
things, where they can
innovate"**

the key factors when thinking about urban development in a global context. Resilience is being researched and implemented all around the world. It's a way to look at area development. The future is getting more uncertain, because fifty years ago you knew what was about to come, while now you don't know this for a fact. That's why you need to be able to adapt. An urban environment is hard to change because the infrastructure already exists. For example, the flooding issues: we have a better system if it comes to protection, but in New York they have a better system to adapt themselves to when hazardous events occur; they know how to repair it and have up-to-date measures like emergency plans. The Dutch want to protect themselves for a longer period of time because of being below sea level where everybody lives and where our industry is located".

The city ports program in Rotterdam is an example of working resiliently. It's a program related to the redevelopment of the former city ports. It's about making Rotterdam a showcase for delta technology, innovations, sustainable technology and a circulated economy. This is one way to act resiliently because it's an open program; it provides the space



for new entrepreneurs to carry out innovative experiments. RDM Campus is one example of the project and the Maashaven in Rotterdam. As Leander comments "To be resilient you should create an environment where people can do new things, where they can innovate".

Leander thinks other current issues are climate adaptation and environmental space orientated problems, technical studies and also ICT related ideas are interesting for students to investigate. Still, everything is part of the theme of resilience. Within the minor project area development has been decided on as the general theme while resilience is the main topic, because many other current topics are related to resilience. The big issue within the minor program is how the assignments are related to resilience and how they can be connected to each other: a great challenge for students to try to apply this within the minor program.

Furthermore, our society is forever changing. Leander's personal vision on the theme of resilience is "Young professionals need an innovative work style to keep up with those changes, and therefore it is useful to be sustainable and resilient. Everything is about resilience, because societies, countries and climates will be constantly changing over the decades. It's important to be able to work in every environment; this is why it's useful to be aware of resiliency.

A society should be resilient so they can learn from each other and cooperate to use knowledge in their own practices. How can we make the world a better place? We shouldn't tell people how to do it, but we should learn from each other. Share knowledge to solve and facilitate in existing issues and future problems that's what we want to accomplish."

As you just read, the minor program has offered a varied program with a dynamic theme for students to further develop themselves into world citizens with innovative, international and intercultural competencies who can reflect on the effectiveness and the impact of their actions. That's what is necessary to work towards resilient solutions.

The minor program International Cooperation and Sustainable Development supports you in developing the knowledge and skills to become such a professional. Come and join in! For a better future.

Written by Tim Knoote & Suzan Reiling



13 “This was the moment we would be a hard **challenge**”



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New York

Mike Bouman (29) is a Water Management student at the Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences. He did his research based on the question “How can both cities, a comparative study about New York City and Rotterdam, exchange knowledge in order to produce a solid adaptation strategy?” Mike did the research with two other students from the minor program: Daisy Busker and Michel Houtkamp. This research took place in New York.

What is your research question?

How can both cities, a comparative study about New York City and Rotterdam, exchange knowledge in order to produce a solid adaptation strategy? An adaptation strategy is to adapt your city for future climate change, such as flooding. You rebuild or re-design the environment so it's capable of adapting whenever catastrophic events occur.

How did you come up with the idea to research this?

The RDM campus had a research agenda; one of the topics was to exchange knowledge with the New York University, in order to develop a more sustainable city. After some interviews with my lecturers I decided to choose this topic which seemed the most useful combination with my profession.

What actions did you take to get an answer to your question?

First of all I made a theoretical framework: “water sensitive cities”, a manual which outlines step by step which transition phases a city will go through, in order to develop urban water management. It also explains which steps are necessary to be taken for a good transition towards an adaptive city. I used the manual as a reference model; I compared the Rotterdam adaptation strategy (R.A.S.) with the New York City approach. Similarities and differences between both approaches had been inventoried.

I started with a literature study; What's a water sensitive city? What are the criteria? I studied the Rotterdam document and the New York City document and compared them to the theory model. Then

I expanded my knowledge by interviewing people in New York, lecturers or people in the work field.

Did you experience a language barrier/cultural differences? How was the contact in the working field?

I had no problem communicating in New York City. Sometimes it was a little bit difficult to use specific terms that are used in the professional field.

Being on time there was just as important as it is in the Netherlands. People were also very open and interested in the research, and were willing to help. It was a very good experience to work with American engineers. The work process is kind of the same as in the Netherlands but the implementation phase in the Netherlands runs smoother than that in New York. It's because there are a lot of documents/reports and a lot of different departments involved, which causes friction. In the end, there are huge plans and few implementations because it's difficult to select one from so many great reports. It's also a political thing; a technical report has to be read by several departments before it can be implemented.

In the Netherlands we trust our Government, they take care of the environment/infrastructure. In New York City people are not convinced by their Government's actions, as they don't trust them. This can be concluded when looking back on America's history.

What were your expectations in the field of work and what was it like?

I used my plan of action very well, everything went as planned. The work process went very smoothly, so those expectations came true. What was different than I expected: if you want to work with local departments, they stick to their own views. They have their own opinion and own planning ideas, this could be caused by lack of communication between departments. It's more effective to put your heads together to find solutions as a team.

What were the big differences between (city/country) and the Netherlands in the field of work?

Rotterdam has a very solid levy protection system, very safe. The focus in Rotterdam is to use water in the city, to create value for water. Make use of the water, in recreation or in an economical sense. For example: water squares can be used for water storage during heavy rain-

falls and can be used as a recreational place when it's dry. New York City is more focused on how to protect the city from flooding; they can solve problems with pumping systems so people can still work after a big climate disaster. Another difference between Rotterdam and New York City is that we are a bit further in the process of water sensitive city cycles. Protecting critical infrastructure in New York City from water is their main focus and buildings are also a part of water safety. They make use of metal plates to protect entrances, so water cannot flow into buildings because the building has become one solid piece.

“The implementation phase in the Netherlands runs smoother than that in New York.”

To what extent is New York City resilient and why do you think that, what is your opinion?

I think New York City has to make some steps in order to be resilient. Their current infrastructure is really aging; also their sewer system and roads are very old. The question is: how can you rebuild/re-design a city with a very big infrastructure? You have to do it in phases, because you cannot shut down a few city blocks (on 5th avenue etc.) for a long time. The most challenging task is: how to rebuild the city with the existing infrastructure in a way that it doesn't have negative effects on daily life.

New York City has more experience with evacuation strategies than Rotterdam because they had more natural disasters. In this way we can learn from each other.

New York has a different mindset about water safety, they are more likely to adapt than to prevent a flood. But this mindset is changing, because of all the tropical storms they've experienced. Yet Rotterdam is more resilient because of the levy system and other solutions. New York is far less protected, there's a chance of flooding once in 500 years and in Rotterdam this chance is 1 in 10,000 years. These numbers can tell us a lot about the water safety that Rotterdam offers and the opportunities (attractiveness investments and developments) within these safe areas.

What were your recommendations/conclusions to your research question? What was your advice?

If New York City wants to improve/re-design their city, they need a good governmental structure on how to implement their great ideas, and at the same time: add value to the city by using and re-using water in the city as a re-design of the city. New York City could boost up from a drainage city to a water cycle city so they should skip the city waterways and go to the next level towards the water sensitive city transition model.

The Dutch can learn from New York City's evacuation strategies. They have a neighborhood leader who is responsible for evacuation and also for the basic necessities, Internet connection (so they can communicate, even during a flood) and shelter. They are more prepared than we are if something goes wrong.

Written by Tim Knoote & Charlene Pawiro

“The Dutch can learn from New York City's evacuation strategies.”



Brazil

Lisa van Weijen (21) is a Commercial Economics student at the Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences. She did research based on the question: "What could be the best possible solution to introduce a new community in Campina Grande?" Lisa did the research with four other students from the minor program: Shaista Polak, Luc Bernoster, Jeroen Hofhuis and Arthur Schippers. This research took place in Brazil, Campina Grande.

What is your research question?

What could be the best possible solution to introduce a new community in Campina Grande?

How did you come up with the idea to research this?

I had a contact person, he made it clear that they wanted to build houses but they didn't know where or what to do. They think it's important that it's habitable for everyone and that it has a sustainable environment. One way of doing this is to work with the local people, to get to know them, what they want and what they need. A community is a place with houses and basic amenities (supermarket, school, church etc.) There are gated communities surrounded by walls, gates and guards and there are also open communities with all the basic necessities/amenities.

What actions did you take to get an answer to your question?

I used questionnaires with questions like: What kind of houses they wanted. What they needed in their environment. If they talked to their neighbours a lot. How far they lived from school and work. How they traveled.

I gathered this information for the locals so therefore I interviewed business people. I interviewed everybody who could give me information about how they wanted to live. What they felt they were missing in their neighbourhood at that moment? What they wanted to rebuild/improve? I used local companies to form a new company, so jobs could be created. I had contacts in the Netherlands and made new contacts in Brazil.

We visited a university where professors and friends introduced us to other companies who could support us. Companies that specialized in construction, logistics, instructions and transportation and anything needed to build a house. We made plans/analyses with all the companies that could help us.

"We were interesting because we were Dutch."

Did you experience a language barrier/cultural differences? How was the contact in the working field?

I don't speak Portuguese nor Spanish and people over there didn't speak English either. We used translators (for 3 weeks) and Google translate (only with the internet). Somebody in our project team was able to contact a person who spoke both Portuguese and Dutch.

We didn't get any information until we promised them that they would get something from us in return. They really wanted to work together but only if they could benefit from us. We made clear that we were only students, we only wanted information, and we were not there to build houses. Eventually they gave us the information we wanted. Another cultural difference was that the company in the Netherlands made a type of material (EPS, special material made of: air pop, different layers of glass fiber and cement) to build houses with and showed that to the locals in Brazil. I had a piece of wall with me but it was not enough. The locals didn't trust the material; they were not open for changes. They didn't think it was safe enough to build houses with EPS, they thought it would burn down fast and that it wasn't strong enough.

What were your expectations in the field of work and what was it like?

My expectation was that it would be really hard to make appointments, because they didn't know us. My presumption was that the Brazilian people were lazy and didn't keep to their schedule. But the opposite was true; they were pretty strict to their schedule. I thought it would be a very tropical area, a rain forest, but the city was very dry, looked more like a desert than a rainforest.

We were students and were not especially important for business people, but we were interesting because we were Dutch. They also thought that we were very rich. Students our own really made contact because they wanted to have contacts in the Netherlands and could therefore visit our country. But most of the time they just thought it was interesting to talk to Dutch people.

What were the big differences between Campina Grande and the Netherlands in the field of work?

They have very long lunch breaks, more than 2 hours. They leave work or school to go to a restaurant. They work in the evening and also go to school in the

evening. They always have class in the evening, till 10 o'clock. What really stood out for me was that everyone asked: "What is in it for me? What can I get out of this?" They weren't even interested in my story. I told them that we were only here on a project, which they understood: 'oh they are just like us'. Eventually they gave me the information I needed.

"It's not that they especially need help, you can contribute to something and they can make use of it".

To what extent is Campina Grande resilient and why do you think that, what is your opinion?

I don't really think the city is resilient; they only have short term solutions. They have housing problems, too many people and too few houses. They build houses quickly in a short time but they don't look at the other factors (what people need). So it's just an area with houses, nothing else, no schools/supermarkets/restaurants. They also have a drought problem; they cut off the water down on Sundays. What happens next is that the locals fill a lot of buckets of water on Saturday, so it's not solving the problem. They don't really see the bigger picture. If you ask them about the water problem: "Do you think there is a solution, what do you think about it?" They say: "It's the government's problem, not mine." So you can't expect a lot of input from the locals.

So what you need to do is to educate people to make them aware that they should look to the future, what are the problems in the future, is what we are currently doing helping for the future or is it just creating more problems?

They need to make sure that people don't abandon the area. I visited several housing projects and you could see that people had already left their houses after only 2 years, because there were no amenities in the neighborhood. Most of the people found other places with a lot more to offer (basic facilities). What you could see were houses that weren't maintained and these areas will eventually turn into ghost towns.

What were your recommendations/conclusions to your research question? What was your advice?

You need to work together with local companies to build a community (advice to the company in Holland: DEPS in Maasbergen, Dutch EPS building solutions). Make it safe and work together with local companies or they will not be accepted. Safety is the most important thing for locals, use cameras or fences. Cities in Brazil have high crime rates. It's important that the community has access to public transportation; otherwise they will leave the area. They need to make sure that they build a solid infrastructure; most of the time there's only a sandy road.

"It's not terrible to live there, but you can help them to find new solutions and improve the environment".

Written by Tim Knoote & Charlene Pawiro

"It's not terrible to live there, but you can help them to find new solutions and improve the environment."





Cape Verde

Simone Diop (24) is an International Business and Management student at Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences. She did her research based on the question: How is the municipality of Sal currently stimulating the entrepreneurship and how the stimulation can become more effective? Simone went to Sal in Cape Verde with fifteen other students. These students did research in tourism, entrepreneurship, ecology and integrated area development. They worked in groups of two to four people. The research took place on the island of Sal over a period of two months. Next to gaining a lot of information they also had the opportunity to learn and see another side of the world.

What was your research question?

How is the municipality of Sal currently stimulating the entrepreneurship and how the stimulation can become more effective?

How did you come to the idea to research this question?

At first, I wanted to research corporate social responsibilities, because I like the concept of sustainability. Besides that I wanted to know how it was done in Cape Verde, but unfortunately it became apparent that the concept was quite unknown over there and the state of the business sector they are currently in, is far from what it is in Rotterdam. So, I changed the question to see how entrepreneurship in general is being stimulated and what is lacking and how it could be improved because that's the only way to build a resilient sector.

What actions have you taken to get an answer to your question?

I observed a lot and conducted interviews with my group, just to get some inside information. I also looked through and read reports while I was doing my desk research, which I also continued to do in the Netherlands. Apart from that I mainly observed and asked questions along the way which led to the conclusion I made.

At first I had to see how everything was being done in Sal, so at first it was mainly observation and while observing I was also planning the interviews. Networking was also very important along the way, and as soon as I had a new contact I immediately planned an interview. I observed throughout the entire project. Finally, I could say that it was a mixture of observation and interviews.

Was the non-existence of corporate social responsibility a shock for you?

I wouldn't say that the non-existence of CSR was a shock for me. At first I thought the concept of corporate social responsibility would be lacking in some way or other, but I did not think that it wouldn't be present at all. As I said before I had no choice but to change my research. So eventually, I felt that entrepreneurship was not being stimulated in the way it should be. I think that the outcome of my research shows the same. In the end, my feelings and the actual concept were the same too.



“They were very open and willing to help.”

Did you have any problems during the interviews?

The cultural aspect wasn't a problem for me. For me it was just about adapting and if you observe, you quickly realize how things are being done. However, I think the language was a barrier sometimes, because their level of English was quite low and my level of Portuguese wasn't that good either. So, language was the biggest problem, but then again, you could compensate for that, for instance, by using a translator. In the end, everything went quite well.

What were your expectations?

At first, I thought that people would be reluctant to open up and talk about the process of learning, entrepreneurship and how they got things done. I also thought that people would be very open about their personal life, and very closed in their professional life. I thought it would be like being in a closed group where you can't get inside information, maybe because of regulations or other restrictions.

How was it actually?

Making contacts was easier over there than I thought. Luckily, they were very open and willing to help. They helped me by answering my questions and they even helped me to get in contact with other people who could help me to proceed with my research.

What were the major differences between the island of Sal and the Netherlands?

The biggest difference was time management. In the Netherlands everything has to be completed to a tight schedule and in Cape Verde a schedule is almost nonexistent, because everyone just does the things whenever they want to do them. And, of course, in the work field it would have to be different because people have deadlines, but it seems that people don't have the stress that is present here in the Netherlands. I would say that time management is also one of the biggest concerns. If you have an appointment in the Netherlands at one o'clock then you have to be there at a quarter to one, but if you make an appointment in Cape Verde for one o'clock, you just have to make sure that you're there before three o'clock.

Wasn't this a problem for you to finish your research on time?

Luckily it wasn't a problem for me. I was pretty relaxed when it came to time. But if time management in Sal had been a problem, then it would have been down to my own time management. I can't say that it was because of the people in Sal. I just had to accept the fact that the statistics I was hoping for weren't there. So I guess waiting for these were the main things that blocked the process. But whenever I was able to work around that, everything went just fine.

To what extent is the island of Sal in your opinion resilient and sustainable?

During my own research and in combination with the research carried out by the other members of the group, it clearly shows that at the moment Sal isn't very sustainable and this has to do with a lot of different factors, because everything comes together at one point. For example: the mentality of the culture there is very much in the short term. There are no plans or forecasts made for the next ten years the way we are trained to do in the Netherlands. Also, I think that different research carried out led back to the issue where the biggest contrast is for example: Rotterdam.

This is pretty resilient for Western standards. In Sal time management, short termed and long termed thinking is the greatest concern.

I also think that Sal won't be completely resilient for years to come because there they are just too dependent on external factors, external funding and external resources. I think they just need the rest of the world in order to survive. In my opinion, the only way for them to be very resilient is if they would be able to sustain themselves. So, I think in this aspect they're not resilient.

For my own personal research I think education plays a very large role in resiliency. For instance: the entrepreneur sector either can be or wants to be resilient. Each person is part of the sector and if their education is not up to standard or up to the standard that is needed to be resilient or to know how things are done then the sector isn't resilient. It all depends on the individuals.

Are the people aware of their mentality problem?

The people that were interviewed agree with their short term mentality, but the people who actually think in the short term haven't even noticed it. I think this has to do with their need to survive. Here in the Netherlands we plan our careers years ahead and in Cape Verde it's a matter of "how am I going to eat today" for a lot of people. I think it's a way of life over there. Eventually, the environment has an effect on how you think.

What were your recommendations/conclusions to your research question?

My recommendation is to enhance entrepreneurship workshops, because the only way for individuals to be able to execute their work is if they know what they're doing and the only way to know what you are doing is to learn the skills that are needed for a business. Business training should be a priority and it would also be able to help for instance: individuals realize that it's very important to plan ahead for your career. For example: if you think five years ahead it will make it easier for you to know what to do now.

Making them aware of long term thinking and making this a mind-set can only be done through the educational system. For example: in high schools. This year is the first year that entrepreneurship has been taught there and I think that's a big step towards what the municipality is trying to reach. Everyone should have basic business skills.

So, the first thing would be to enhance the stimulation of entrepreneurship, which can be done through workshops.

The second thing is to have an online platform for information relating to entrepreneurship, because some people don't have the necessary information. I think if you have a platform that anyone can have access to and which is also linked to schools then you will have one place where all the information relating to, for instance, a business plan where all the rules and regulations are present. This would make it a lot easier if everything were in one place. Also, whoever is willing to learn has the ability to learn and the ones who really don't want to invest their time and energy in it automatically won't do it.

"I think it's a way of life over there, the environment has an effect on how you think."

Rotterdam

Mattijs Groeneveld (23) is an Architecture and Engineering student at the Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences. He did his research based on the question: "What are the main topics/issues in the area of the Maashaven?" Mattijs did the research with two other students from the minor program: Nick Brink and Steven Kooijman. This research took place in south Rotterdam.

What is your research question?

What are the main topics/issues in the area of Maashaven?

How did you come to the idea of researching this?

Our supervisor wanted to create a development in Rotterdam-South: the Maashaven. This development has to have an influence on the rest of Rotterdam-South. In contrast to the rest of Rotterdam and its centre, the south side has to deal with more problems. In this case change is a must, but first research has to be done into the main problems that exist.

What did you have to do in order to get an answer to your question?

At first, we had to divide our research into three main interests: the inhabitants, the entrepreneurs and the government.

For these three groups we began with some desk research on the Internet. Then we carried out a few interviews with entrepreneurs, some people who are responsible for the area and who were also working with the government in this area.

We approached people on the streets. We asked them if they would like to help us with our surveys.

As for the entrepreneurs, we went to their companies/offices and made appointments to carry out some interviews. We also called a few people to inform them that we were doing some research in the Maashaven and if they were available to help us by taking part in some interviews.

What were your expectations?

I thought that the process would be quick. I thought it would be a matter of making contact, going to the appointment and then having an interview. We wanted to know from the inhabitants what they wanted. We didn't think that it would be easy to get

an answer to this question, because we expected that the inhabitants would say that they were already used to what they had. But we still wanted to have an in-depth conversation with the inhabitants, so we could do something with it.

How did it actually go?

In total it took 4 to 5 weeks. We wanted to make sure that we asked the right questions in relation to the three areas of interest so we could get the information we needed to have for a valid research. Eventually, we had to figure out which questions we wanted to ask. We also didn't want to limit them in their answers. In this case it was very important to think carefully about our questions.

The interviews with the entrepreneurs went well, but the surveys with the inhabitants were a bit difficult. We had already received some information from the municipal government regarding the inhabitants and the problems we could encounter for example: the language. A lot of them didn't speak the Dutch language very well. It was important for us to make the questions clear, so we could receive concrete answers. We had digital surveys, so during the surveys we were also present to explain any questions the inhabitants didn't understand. We also asked them the questions and we filled in the answers for them just to make the process easier. Luckily, there were enough people who understood the questions and who were able to help us further with our research.

"This was the moment we knew that it would be a hard challenge."

Another example of the work process was in the first week. We went to an event in the Luxor Theater. It was an event for young people who were still going to school. They were approximately sixteen years old, but there were also graduates. So, once we arrived we started by asking them a few questions, but it didn't go as planned. Unfortunately, they weren't willing to cooperate. They came reluctantly and they told us that they had the feeling that they were forced into it by their school.

This event was quite a good eye-opener, because this was the moment we knew that it would be a hard challenge. I was glad this had happened, because now we knew how important it was to ask the right questions. We also learned that we should not ask too many questions, because if we did it would require too much of their time and they would eventually lose interest in helping us.

Another example of the work process was that we had contact with an architect who had put a few sheep, a shepherd and a dog on the dyke at the Brielselaan. As a result of this a lot of schools came to have a look with young children around the age of 8. Not only were the schools attracted here, but also a lot of other curious inhabitants turned up. This worked out well for us, because we could carry out our survey.

What were the main problems in the Southside?

We made an overview of the problems. First of all we

can say that a few inhabitants were willing to work but some didn't want to have anything to do with it. We also discovered that one problem can trigger another for example: criminality is a result of a lack of education, but a lack of education is also a result of a shortage of apprenticeships. Due to this there are a lot of school dropouts.

Companies in the area don't make use of the jobseekers who also live in the there. They don't care where their employees come from. If they employed the inhabitants who lived in this area they would help to reduce unemployment. Besides that it would work in their favour, because the inhabitants are already aware of the issues that are going on around them.

The dyke at the Brielselaan creates a boundary between the south side of Rotterdam and the north side. As a result of this, the people living on the south side close to the dyke don't feel connected to the rest of Rotterdam. The dyke is not only a psychological barrier, but also a mental one.

At the Maassilo there are a few crane elevators are used for loading and unloading ships. These grain elevators are very old and the government wants to renovate them. They want to get the people in that area working or those who are willing to work. In this case these inhabitants will get the chance to work and have an income. They will also get work experience which could provide them with better opportunities to get a job in the future.

To what extent is Rotterdam resilient in your opinion?

The city of Rotterdam is heading in the right direction to becoming resilient. There are more and more people who have the feeling that they're responsible. For example: in the area of Katendrecht, there's a movement towards more locally produced products of better quality. In Katendrecht there are a lot of empty buildings, but now they are being used for these things. So, this is already a small change that is being created in Katendrecht.

What were your recommendations/conclusions to your research question?

Change is needed, but it is not necessary to physically put something in the area. The requirements for a change are already present, but they just need to be connected to each other.

Companies in the area need to make use of the jobseekers who live there. In this case they can both benefit from it. Companies should hire employees who have knowledge of the area so that the people here will no longer unemployed. They will also get a lot of experience to help them get a better job in the future.

Make sure that the south side has a connection with the rest of Rotterdam. Make use of the barrier that's already there for example: by turning it into an attraction like the example with the sheep.



“There are more and more people who have the feeling that they're responsible”



“People always had time for us; we could stop by whenever we wanted to help with our questions.”

Indonesia

Nicolette van Houwelingen (20) is a Logistics and economics student at the Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences. She did her research based on the question: “What long-term recommendations can be made to add value to the economic, social and physical aspects of Kemijen, Semarang, considering the effects of the Banger Polder Project?” Nicolette did the research with four other students from the minor program: Melissa Hoogendoorn, Simone van Beckhoven, Chelsea Blaser and Jens de Jong.

What is your research question?

What long-term recommendations can be made to add value to the economic, social and physical aspects of Kemijen, Semarang, considering the effects of the Banger Polder Pilot Project?

How did you come up with the idea to research this?

Teachers explained the situation in Semarang to us. There they have a huge problem with flooding. To try to solve this problem, they have built a polder to control the floods. This polder cannot function properly as there is no pump available. The polder is supposed to channel the water towards the pump, and the pump then pumps the water to the retention area. As lot of people live close to the water, including illegal immigrants, their houses will flood if the polder's not working properly.

What actions did you take to get an answer to your question?

I had a look at how the flooding affects the local inhabitants in Semarang. I interviewed BPP SIMA, the company that controls the polder. BPP SIMA is the water board located in the same building as the municipality (in the city center). The polder is built in a very poor sub district, pretty far away from this company.

I did interviews with the University of Semarang and with the local people. They told me their biggest concerns and what they want changed. I spoke with Johan Helmer from HHSK (he participated in the building of the polder), who gave us information about the polder in Semarang.

The main priority is to keep the locals dry, because their houses can flood. Another priority is to create jobs in the area; with the existence of the polder this is possible because the locals can become part of the technical support group responsible for maintaining the polder. They will have to do this by regularly cleaning the rivers and controlling the pump.

Did you experience a language barrier/cultural differences? How was the contact in the working field?

A lot of people don't speak English, locals and people from BPP SIMA. You have to use a translator. The university gave us lecturers who guided us and the people from BPP SIMA, who live in the flood prone area, gave me their contacts. The main job of the university was to provide me with contacts. People always had time for us; we could stop by whenever we wanted to help with our questions.

What were your expectations in the field of work and how was it actually?

I thought it was going to be difficult, because of the language barrier and the cultural differences. You have a lot of questions, and you don't know who to ask. But we were put in contact with the right people. The translator helped us a lot, most of the time it was an English student from the university. On the island I noticed that the main religion was Islam, which was different. You don't know how they could react to certain things and would I be respectful enough? That was hard, but at the same time, you learn a lot and have to adjust to the environment you're in. The culture shock was not as big as I had expected.

What were the big differences between Semarang, Indonesia and the Netherlands in the field of work?

The biggest difference was religion. I feel that in the Netherlands we are pretty strict and everything is documented and written down. In Indonesia they have a lot of ideas but they don't write them down, that was confusing for me but our way was also confusing for them. All the ideas are in their heads, but no one else knows about them. They don't know how to share their knowledge with those who can make a difference. They have ideas on how to maintain the polder, but the local inhabitants don't know anything about them. They have documents but not many people know about them either. This can be referred to as a communication problem. It's not an exception if someone is 30 minutes late, you just have to accept it and adjust to it. Sometimes you give advice, they know they should work on it, but if it's not a priority, they won't think it's that important. And, because they think it's not that important, they will soon forget about it.

To what extent is Semarang, Indonesia resilient and why do you think that, what is your opinion?

It's resilient in a few ways; they have built a polder, which is resilient. They shut down the polder in order to make improvements to it. They have improved the situation to keep the local people dry. Locals have raised their houses, this does not prevent flooding but they have made adjustments. To be more resilient they should focus on the side effects and other priorities so they can see the bigger picture and become more effective.

What were your recommendations/conclusions to your research question? What was your advice?

My advice was to document information (what's going wrong, what should be improved, ideas).

Improve communications (BPP SIMA) with the local

people so they know what to expect.

Some of the locals don't even know that the polder exists or don't know anything about the ideas or plans. Therefore, better communication to make people aware of the polder and keep them informed on what's going on.

They do have some knowledge that an operation support team will take care of the maintenance of the polder.

The polder will only start working when the pump is put in place which will be in 2016. Illegal immigrants ??? will have to relocate before the pump starts operating or else it would be a risk for them. Maintenance will not

start straight away which could lead to a problem, because the operation team will only be selected in 2019. Another one of my recommendations: start maintenance early because maintenance is the most important thing to become resilient and work effectively. If there's going to be no maintenance for the first 3 years there's big risk that something could break and could therefore result in another flood. It would also be good if BPP SIMA arranged a meeting with the locals so they could share their ideas and it would get them more involved in the project.

Written by Tim Knoote & Charlene Pawiro



The importance of resilience

a problem solving approach

An Analysis of Resilience in a Social Context by Suzan Reiling, a Cultural and Social Development student from the Bachelor Degree Course in Social Work at Rotterdam University. Suzan took part in the minor program; International Cooperation & Sustainable Development at the Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences.

What is resilience?

The definition of resilience which has been taught within the minor program is described as followed: 'the capacity of social, economic, and environmental systems to cope with a hazardous event or trend disturbance, responding or reorganizing in ways that maintain their essential function, identity, and structure, while also maintaining the capacity for adaptation, learning and transformation' (IPCC, 2014)

Why resilience is important

As a result of the current events on our planet earth such as wars, terrorism, natural disasters, poverty and so on, it has become incredibly important to create innovative solutions in order to deal with the complexity of our social, economic and environmental challenges.

Working towards resiliency from the perspective of social, environmental and economic justice creates opportunities to find such solutions. Without resiliency most challenges would only be solved on a temporary basis, which would help for a while but in the long term it would not be a sustainable solution. As the English proverb says: "Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day; teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime."

The perspective of resiliency aims to support sustainable and inclusive development to create solutions that are applicable to their specific context.

Charlie Hebdo

To give an example of a challenge we are facing in the world today, I would like to illustrate the Charlie Hebdo attack in the context of resiliency. Charlie Hebdo is a French satirical weekly magazine, based in Paris. The magazine is free of advertising and features only cartoons and written texts. Charlie Hebdo has been the target of two terrorist attacks, in 2011 and in 2015. These attacks were in response to the publication of cartoons in which the Islamic

prophet Muhammad was depicted. In the recent attack in January, 2015 twelve people were killed.

Worldwide, people were shocked by this terrorist attack. There were outcries concerning democracy and the freedom of the press. Many Muslims protested as they did not want to be associated with this attack which was carried out by a few extremists who do not represent the entire Muslim community. On Sunday, January 11th, there was a memorial in Paris to commemorate the people who lost their lives. One and a half million people gathered in Paris for this commemoration and even world leaders were present to show their support.

The memorial was a direct response to the attack. However, how has the situation been looked into for a sustainable solution? What has been done since the memorial? The attack has resulted in a

discussion on the freedom of the press, security and religious freedom. This event is about social justice. So the question is, how could you change this situation in order to become resilient for those who have been duped, in this case Charlie Hebdo and the city of Paris?

Working towards resiliency

From another perspective relating to the theme of resilience it isn't necessarily about which resilient solutions have been created, but more about the resiliency of a city. How did the city of Paris re-establish itself after the attack?

The response after the attack was enormous. Soon afterwards Charlie Hebdo published a new edition of the weekly magazine with the financial support of €500,000 from the French press and €250,000 was contributed by Google's Press Innovation Fund (NRC, 9 januari 2015). The French government has also supported Charlie Hebdo by giving them €1 million to ensure the survival of the weekly magazine. The minister of Culture, Joelle Milquet, is attempting

**"Working
towards
resiliency
creates opportunities
to find
solutions."**

to change the law to provide a structural aid for Charlie Hebdo.

French muslims and other muslims around the world have spoken out against the extremist attack using the slogan “Not My Islam” for example. Cartoonists have used their pencils to show that you can kill people, but you can’t kill their ideas. You could say, they are resilient by not giving in. These responses are yet examples of temporary measures.

In order to become more resilient, we have to look for more sustainable solutions to anticipate the consequences of hazardous events.

In the short term, the French government is now trying to provide more training to their police forces and army in order to become more resilient to future events.

The consequences of such an event go much further than maintaining the security of a police system or making sure Charlie Hebdo can survive. It’s the discussion about the freedom of speech of the press and religion that needs a sustainable and resilient solution. Social justice needs to be revealed in terms of resiliency. This needs time. Time to be aware of all factors and consequences of the situation. Time to learn from each other.

One measure that could be taken is teaching the importance of citizenship in education. England has a program called Children’s Resilience Program to make a difference against radicalization.

“Not with the first goal of a safer society, nor to reprimand children when their ideas are different, but to work with them on the development of young, responsible citizens with their own ideals.” states Leo Pauw, educational developer at Stichting Vreedzaam, in the Volkskrant.

“Nothing
about them,
without
them.”

Another method that could be used to create solutions towards resiliency, for example, is community visioning. This method was taught in one of the lectures of the minor program by Jaime Stein, working at the Pratt Institute of New York as head of program at M.S. Sustainable Environmental Systems.

Using the community visioning method is a process that is a citizen-driven initiative that outlines a set of goals – ideas to strive for – that set the stage for people to think boldly, make breakthroughs, and achieve new possibilities. Because a vision is adaptable and can be implemented gradually, starting with small experiments, it often becomes more powerful through time as public enthusiasm for making bold changes gains support (Stein, 2011).

Finally

The Charlie Hebdo case resulted in a discussion on social justice and by using the tool community visioning, you can make people aware of social differences and beliefs, but also create the possibility to work on sustainable solutions together.

The appointment of these two methods, education on citizenship and community visioning, are just examples of ideas to work towards resilience after a calamity or a trend disturbance such as in the Charlie Hebdo case.

In my opinion, resiliency is adaptability. Make cities, communities adaptable by using methods with sustainable outcomes in order to become resilient.

Not often can you create solutions without the contribution of a society. Nothing about them, without them.

Written by Suzan Reiling



Cultural *differences*

HOW DO YOU ADDRESS YOUR SUPERVISOR?

What is the common way to greet someone?

How do you deal with time matters?

What is considered normal while eating?

AND HOW DO YOU PRESENT YOURSELF?

All kinds of questions may occur when you are dealing with a different culture. During the minor program students of ICSD completed their project with a field research. The field research took place in Indonesia, Brazil, Cape Verde, New York and Rotterdam.

Sounds like a lot of fun, doesn't it? And yes, it was! But apart from the fun times the students also faced difficulties and barriers they had to overcome. Most of them were related to cultural differences. In order to cope with these differences the students prepared themselves by studying culture from the perspective of the Hofstede and Trompenaar & Hampen-Turner dimensions. During the Intercultural Cooperation classes these dimensions were analysed, discussed and even practised through role playing activities. But as a lot of students may agree: it is nothing compared to real life experiences. During their time in the field they discovered not only cultural differences, but also cultural similarities. Now that the students have returned, we would like to know how they truly experienced this so-called cultural shock. And how they view these experiences from the point of view of the dimensions discussed during the Intercultural Cooperation classes.



Short term vs. long term *in Brazil*

This dimension refers to how important people consider the present and the future. In some cultures success in the future is worth the trouble now. Other cultures do not take the future into consideration when making (certain) decisions. A high score indicates a culture that is short term oriented. A culture with a low score is considered to be long term orientated. Luc Bernostern (student Real Estate management) was in Campina Grande, Brazil and experienced a differences concerning short and long term thinking. Senior Engineering students do not implement sustainability or practice wa-

ter saving concepts in their designs or ideas, in spite of a water shortage in the city. As a result, this leads to problems such as no running water on Sundays. The students expect the government to solve the problem as quickly as possible. In order to discuss long term projects and goals in a short term based culture, we really had to point out the short-term benefits for the people we cooperated with. For example; water saving systems, a reduced cost of living and maybe even reduced costs for houses. Focussing on the climate and making forecasts for the next 10 years will not work at all.

Individualism vs. collectivism *in Indonesia*

The dimensions of individualism vs. collectivism gives insight into how individualistic or cohesive a culture is. Cultures who are described as collective act upon the group's interest. The group is more important than the individual, which is unlikely for cultures that are described as individualistic. People in these cultures consider their personal goals and interests to be more important than those of a group. Simone van Beckhoven (student Business administration, Economics and Law) was in Semarang, Indonesia. She experienced the strong sense of collectivism in Indonesia.

Hofstede and Trompenaars & Hampden-Turner state that collectivism is very present in poor countries. Collectivism is also common in Islamic countries according to the theory. We noticed this in Java, where Islam is a major religion. People there are really focussed on the

group and the people around them. They are concerned about each other and they are not as individualistic as in the Netherlands. Wherever we visited the local inhabitants, they would help us and gave us a lot of attention. The locals were very social and helpful. This was very heart warming. In our city, Semarang, the people did not speak English very well, but were always willing to help. On Bali, locals would often ask us "Where are you going?" and would send us in the right direction.

I did not feel like I had to adjust during my time in Indonesia, because everybody was very helpful and a lot of the time that was what we needed, so this was very nice. I experienced collectivism as a positive thing as it was my first time there. I think Indonesian people would need to adjust more if they were to come to the Netherlands, because we are very individualistic over here.

Masculinity vs. Femininity *in the United States*

How strictly does the culture stick to the traditional roles of men and women? A masculine culture is the most traditional, a culture where emotions are rarely shown and achievements are valued. In a feminine culture the roles are not divided based on gender. Emotions are allowed and sometimes even highly appreciated. Daisy van Busker (student International Business and Languages) visited New York for her field research. She got to experience first hand how masculine the American culture can be. The US is more masculine and the Dutch are more feminine, which defines the biggest difference between the Netherlands and the US. The US is more driven by competition and success; the winner takes it all. The Netherlands is more social, or as they refer to it in the US: softer. The Dutch may appear tough in a business context but in general the Dutch take every stakeholder into account, which is not always the case in

the US. One example is college tuition; only the best will apply and will receive the best education. In the Netherlands schools are open to everyone, with a few exceptions, of course, which shows the feminine part of the Dutch. In the Netherlands healthcare is available to everyone in the country and in the US you have to pay for your own medical treatment resulting in the fact that some citizens don't even have any health insurance. Furthermore, spare time is important within the US but so is success and status. Sometimes it's very hard to get the right balance between these. While in the US we adjusted to the rules and regulations of the city of New York. We did this in order to learn and seek out what we thought were the pros and cons. We explained the Dutch way of life to those who were interested, however, we found the Americans to be stubborn and believed that their opinion was best.

Indulgence *in Cape Verde*

This dimension gives an insight into whether a culture acts upon its desires and impulses or tends to control them. Cultures and societies who have a high score on this dimension also tend to be more optimistic than those cultures who score low on the dimension. Jasminda Araujo (student Leisure management) went to Sal, Cape Verde for her field research and enjoyed the high sense of indulgence on the island. The Cape Verdeans have an eagerness to act upon their desires and impulses. This is something you see in their day-to-day life. They enjoy life in every way they can. One evening a friend decid-

ed to give a party. Within a few hours drinks and food were ready, music was playing and everyone was having a good time. This is something that would happen from time to time. The Cape Verdeans do not plan they just do what they feel like and whenever they feel like it.

I think indulgence makes you appreciate life more. In Europe and the rest of the Western World we tend to think too much about everything and as a result lose out at the expense of the moment. We could learn more from the Cape Verdean people in this area. Live for the moment and enjoy life more.

Written by Jasminda Araujo

For more information about the dimensions and cultural differences, visit the website www.geert-hofstede.com. Here you can also find a [country comparison tool](#) and discover what could be potential cultural pitfalls for you!



Impression by Arcadis, RTKL

ARIE Voorburg

For the past six months the students of the minor program International Cooperation and Sustainable Development have been working daily with the theme Resiliency. In order to get a clear image of what resiliency means and how it can be implemented in practice, several speakers were invited to provide lectures. One of these speakers was Arie Voorburg, an inspirational speaker and an expert in the field of Urban Transitions with a true passion for his work. We decided to interview Mr Voorburg and capture his perspective on resiliency in the world we live in today, but also his vision for the future.

ARIE VOORBURG

“Changing cities from static creations to dynamic, urban and resilient systems.” This is how Mr. Voorburg describes his day-to-day work. He looks at cities as a system of social, cultural, economic and ecological principles, which are all, connected with one another and interlocked in a global environment of biophysical boundaries and thermodynamic limits.

According to him the main question is: How do you translate resiliency into practice in a city? “First and foremost you will have to understand how the urban system of a city works, subsequently identifying the external pressures or boundaries.”

As Mr. Voorburg explains; global ecological systems can be studied and certain connections between developments can be made. There is a link between the level of CO₂, the sea level rising and food production. These connections are to a certain extent logical and can be understood. This is not the case with emotionality and a-rationality of human beings. “There is not one kind of human being”. This way, social and cultural aspects have to be integrated into this ecosystem, causing uncertainty.

RESILIENCY

Resiliency is a complex and theoretical concept, and a term that can be interpreted in many different ways, depending on the determined aspect and scale. This is why, according to Mr. Voorburg, resiliency as a term in relation to an urban environment should be described differently the physical definition, simply because there are also psychological social and cultural aspects to take into consideration. This is very difficult. I think we still have to discover what resiliency in an urban system really means.”

Mr. Voorburg refers to resiliency as a new buzzword in the Netherlands. “No one knew what resiliency was two years ago. Resiliency is an ecological term meaning adaptability. The capacity to be adaptive.”

“What we are doing now is integrating this ecological thinking into a social cultural context, and that’s quite difficult because ecosystems although multi l complex and interlinked have intrinsic logic, a system that can be understood [and predicted].” This is not always the case when dealing with human beings.

Even though resiliency plays a big part in the world of Urban Transitions, other parties and stakeholders don’t always take this topic into consideration during the creative process. Mr. Voorburg has seen a small change, but parties such as designers, developers and politicians tend to look at cities in a different, mostly fragmented way. The combination of the logical and illogical systems makes a very complex environment,

which is being fragmented by people to be able to understand and control it. “In the past people have tried to split up a city in controllable units by dividing these in political, economic and social units.” According to Mr. Voorburg people have to let go of the idea that cities can be controlled. “Controlling cities is impossible.”

“IN THE PAST PEOPLE HAVE TRIED TO SPLIT UP A CITY IN CONTROLLABLE UNITS...”

To be as resilient as possible, Mr Voorburg thinks, any hazardous situations should be known in advance. He emphasizes that resiliency does not prevent hazardous situations, it copes with the situation if it should ever happen. What could be considered as quite remarkable, and could be attributed to the a-logical human nature, is that even though we are already dealing with the consequences of climate change, in the upcoming twenty years, 55% of the so called mega cities – cities with a population of ten million or more – will be located in coastal areas. “If there were to be a hurricane or a flood, you could not build a resilient city for that.” There are ‘thresholds’ to the capability of recovery. “Resiliency means keeping as far away from thresholds.”

LOSS OF TALENT

“In order to create a more psychically adaptable environment, we have to change our current idea of engineering and create new design principles.” Mr. Voorburg would like to see a change in architecture designs. He explains that in order to be more resilient, future designs should be more adaptable, flexible and removable. Apart from the psychical aspect, economical systems should change to circular inclusive biobased economies. . Mr. Voorburg thinks that a lot of talent is wasted due to the current inadequate socio-economic situation. “We are losing people who should have the capability to be resilient.” Partially due to technological developments, the world we live in is getting more and more complex each day. “I see people who cannot cope with this complex society.” Hard workers, people with great capacity to learn or other skills, fall behind and miss

“ I THINK WE STILL HAVE TO DISCOVER WHAT RESILIENCY IN AN URBAN SYSTEM REALLY MEANS.”

out on certain opportunities, simply because they cannot fully cope with the development and changes of the society we live in today. Mr. Voorburg referred to these so-called twenty-first century social skills. Someone who is creative, thinks out-of-the-box, knows how to deal with the current technology and all this while processing constant flux of information. “A lot of people cannot live up to this. And this is not only due to the educational system – which I think is outdated and not suitable anymore – but also cultural and social differences, but also the ability of cognitively thinking of an individual.” Mr. Voorburg refers to this the ability of coping with this complexity as the talent. He thinks this causes unnecessary delays, which translates into socio-economic inequality and a loss of a talented people where the current society so strongly depends on and appeals to. With each day the economy is getting

more complex and highly technological. “We will have a shortage when it comes to young and talented people who can cope with the situation. This talent development needs to be improved and we have to invest, if we want to compete and participate in the future world economy. We will need people who are skilled and able to deal with this complexity in order to keep up with countries such as America and Asia.”

Mr. Voorburg also emphasized that the most resilient part of a city are the people. A social network plays a big role in here, especially for the people who are poorly educated or have poor social skills. Opposed to others they depend on people around them to get them where they are supposed to be. This is because they do not (fully) possess these “twenty-first century social skills”. The other group will find their way thanks to those skills. They will create and broaden their (social) network while they go and explore the world.

FUTURE OF RESILIENCE

“Disruptive technology will have an enormous impact on systems, especially on urban systems and our socio-economic systems. For example cloud computing and nano-info-bio and cognotechnology. These are converging technologies. These technologies go beyond electronics or robotics.” Mr. Voorburg thinks these developments could stabilize or destabilize a system, and in this way strengthen or reduce resiliency. He thinks that in the upcoming five years a flux of new technologies for urban systems will have a tremendous influence on our day-to-day lives. Mr. Voorburg is fascinated with the question: how can we integrate the natural environment, the constructions and the people who live or work in it? Life like systems, synthetic biology, metabolic and intelligent materials, quantum computing are being introduced. Biomimicry and life like systems designed to give biological like dynamic functions to building exteriors. Underpinned by bio economics, it is defined by a purpose to plan cities in a far more holistic and collaborative way than traditional silo based practices allow. From smart to intelligent to bionic cities. One answer could be a project he is currently working on. The concept of Bionic City implies using the most efficient solution while employing a minimum of resources. Cities that efficiently cycle matter require less energy input. By doing this the bionic city concept respects the earth's abundance enabling a recognition that humans are not divorced from natural systems. Sensitive to their surroundings, fused to form a complex adaptive system in sync with the Earth's natural processes. The build environment within the software of the city -its culture, society and economy- convergence technologies and connect with natural systems.

“IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT SUSTAINABILITY IN DAILY LIFE, ECONOMIC INEQUALITY NEEDS TO BE ELIMINATED”

A project we are working is an intelligent building. The build environment as dynamic, intelligent and reactive, micogrids, metabolic materials, bioreactors. An intelligent building does not only register information but also, generates new information –intelligence- and is connected to (as an example) wearable gadgets. The gadgets are for example linked to a medical dossier, which is connected to the cloud.

In case of anomalies for the regular behaviour the house will respond. Another example of an intelligent building is when you wake up in the morning; the house will know that it is you getting out of bed. While you are brushing your teeth, the house will recommend you to take the metro instead of your car to your appointment, because it is linked to your agenda and has registered a traffic jam on the highway.

SUSTAINABILITY

Apart from resiliency the minor program also focuses on sustainability. We asked Mr. Voorburg how sustainable he thought he was. In day-to-day life Mr. Voorburg is very aware of his consumption behaviour. He also separates his garbage and waste and at home he only eats biological and natural food products. “It is not particularly because we want to be more sustainable, but the food is healthier and it simply tastes better.”

He considers this lifestyle to be a luxury. “I can afford it, but for someone else who lives on a small budget, it is all about surviving.” He believes that in order to really implement sustainability in daily life economic inequality needs to be eliminated, making people more resilient. Only then sustainable development can take place.

Written by Jasmina Araujo & Chelsea Blaser



**We need opinionated people who do things differently,
in dialogue with their environment. [6]**

Our society is forever changing. [7]

**New York is more prepared than we are
if something goes wrong. [11]**

We didn't get any information until we
promised them something in return. [12]

Safety is the most important thing for locals... [13]

There are no plans or forecasts made for the next ten years
the way we are trained to do in the Netherlands. [15]

**The requirements for a change are
already present, but they just need to be
connected to each other. [17]**

Social justice needs to be revealed in terms of resiliency. This needs time.
Time to be aware of all factors and consequences of the situation.
Time to learn from each other. [21]

Live for the moment and enjoy life more. [23]

In order to create a more psychically adaptable environment,
we have to change our current idea of engineering
and create new design principles. [26]

**It is a Dutch duty to help other countries with their water problems
by sharing knowledge and expertise on water management. [31]**

I like to work with young people,
I always liked it because you will create new things together,
and most of the times it leads to very good results. [42]

Cultural *differences*


The experiences



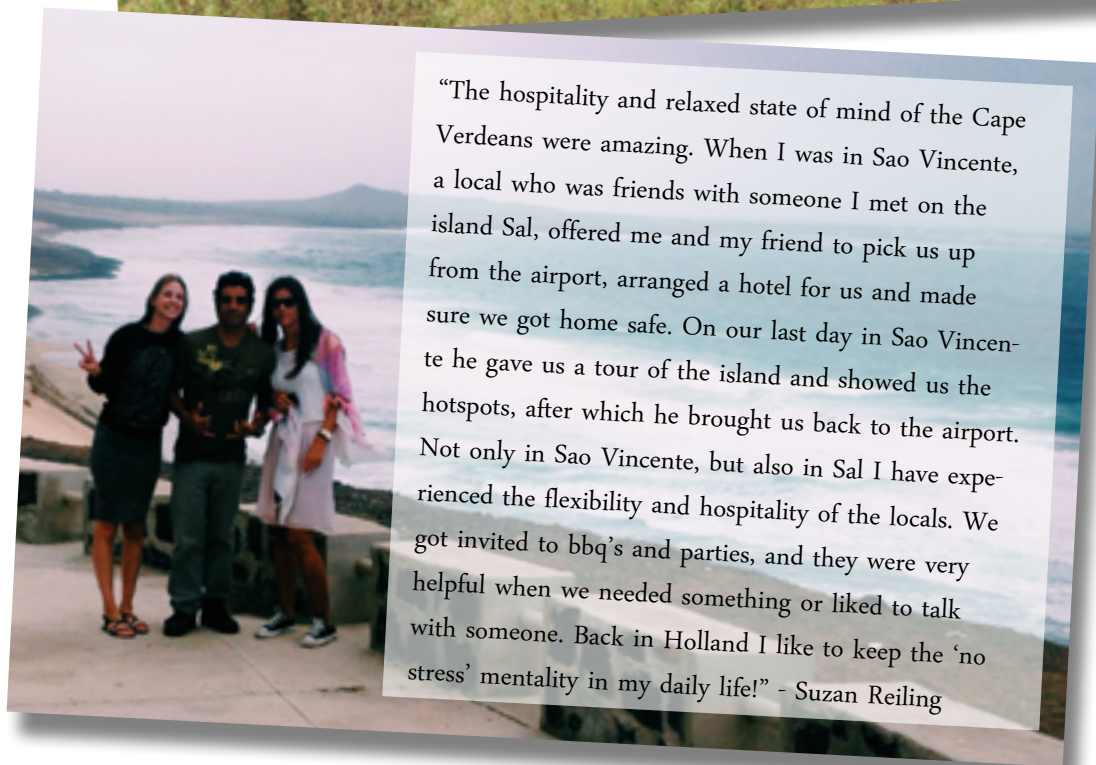
"As I have noticed during a community visioning in the Rockaways [New York], where children of only 8-10 years old were asked what they believe should be improved in the neighborhood. When one child was too shy to answer, a women in the audience mentioned 'you better learn to stand up for yourself, otherwise nobody will ever listen to you.' People in the US are more opinionated and seem to be more stubborn than the Dutch when it comes to concessions." - Daisy Busker



"I think the most characteristic for the culture of Indonesia is the traffic. Where Dutch drivers are quickly irritated because they are in a hurry, or because 'other drivers aren't paying attention', the Indonesians take it as it is and make the best of the situation. People are not irritated when cut off, and honking is used to let others know where you are, not to tell people off. A good example of this was the situation where two scooters passed our car, one of them switching sides in front of us. Both men had to break hard not to collide, but instead of yelling at each other both of them flashed a brilliant smile, motioning to each other to go ahead." - Chelsea Blaser



“We were welcomed by a sweet little lady. She crammed us in a jeep and, while simultaneously taking a phone call and doing her makeup in the rearview mirror, she raced through the busy traffic to our apartment. Halfway there we made a pitstop at a gas station for a welcome drink (a pint of beer). When we arrived at what turned out to be our penthouse, there was, next to our third welcome drink, a big bag of weed on the table! ‘WELCOME TO BRASIL GUYS!’ She said.” - Jeroen Hofhuis



“The hospitality and relaxed state of mind of the Cape Verdeans were amazing. When I was in Sao Vicente, a local who was friends with someone I met on the island Sal, offered me and my friend to pick us up from the airport, arranged a hotel for us and made sure we got home safe. On our last day in Sao Vicente he gave us a tour of the island and showed us the hotspots, after which he brought us back to the airport. Not only in Sao Vicente, but also in Sal I have experienced the flexibility and hospitality of the locals. We got invited to bbq’s and parties, and they were very helpful when we needed something or liked to talk with someone. Back in Holland I like to keep the ‘no stress’ mentality in my daily life!” - Suzan Reiling

Rosemarie

Different cultures, different water problems!

It is a Dutch duty to help other countries with their water problems by sharing knowledge and expertise on water management. This is a clear message from Minister Melanie Schultz van Haegen of the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment. The Netherlands is known for its Delta Works, building with nature and its integral approach. In addition, to prevent floods you can also build on water safety, making government organisations and inhabitants aware of their water safety for instance. Besides this, we are known for our good governmental system with water boards. All of these elements are important for other countries to learn from.

The water board Hoogheemraadschap van Schieland en de Krimpenerwaard (HHSK) has been helping the city of Semarang in Indonesia with a pilot project to prevent flooding. An urban polder was built in a sub district of the city. HHSK has shared its technical and administrative knowledge by setting up the first Indonesian water board to maintain and manage the urban polder. For the inhabitants and government organisations this polder system and water board is new and unknown. How can you help people from other cultures obtain this kind of water management knowledge? I have an answer to this question.

For my final thesis I did research on water management in Semarang for the HHSK water board. One of the results was that with the use of simple images and nonverbal communication you could explain to the inhabitants and government organisations what the water problems were, and to make them aware of the water board. This was why I designed a scenario tool. The scenario tool allows you to experience why the inhabitants should act in a certain way and why collaboration is sometimes difficult between inhabitants and the government. The tool can also be used for informational purposes; to inform participants, and make them aware of the water problems and water board in their neighbourhood.

One of the main results of the scenario tool was that the inhabitants and government explained different scenarios. The inhabitants were more aware of their water safety and being able to protect themselves, but they were almost not aware of the water board. The government organisations were aware of the water board but not the high flood risk in the area. The scenario tool helps the inhabitants and government to become aware of the flood problems, and how the inhabitants and government can solve them. And, in a simple way, it also helps them understand how to improve water safety, and create a water board by working together. That is why the scenario tool is perfect for anyone who wants to communicate with other cultures on water safety or a water board.

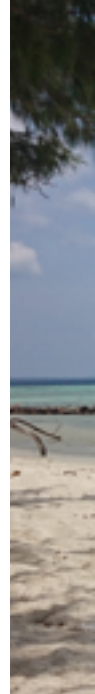
Submitted by Rosemarie van Ham





<< This photo illustrates the beautiful skies on Sal. The sunset changes every moment so it is magical and relaxing to just sit in the sand and watch the sun sink into the sea. *Rosanne Stel*

>> Everyday between eleven and two the catch of that day will be cleaned and sold at the pier. Nice to take a look at, even if you are not a fish lover. It's also an easy way to get in touch with the locals!
Kimberly Visser



“This is the most beautiful place I have ever been in my entire life.”

>> Kitebeach: Here, at this place everybody wants the same: kitesurfing. The atmosphere is relaxed. It's like it has its own community.
Dick Louwhoff

Cape Verde



^ Cycling to Kite Beach, Espargos and back to Santa Maria (+/- 50km). A great experience and a good way to get used to the heat on Sal. It really makes you aware of the environment. Just rent a bike and enjoy! Best tip: go out prepared and have sufficient supply of water!
Yannick Ritmeester



<< This is the most beautiful place I have ever been in my entire life. The view is from the island Santo Antão in Cape Verde.
Robin Reedijk

>> This picture is taken after a kitesurf lesson. The island Sal is famous for kitesurfing, so being on this island was my chance to learn it. With a nice sunset I could finish my lovely day on the water. *Michèle Vernède*





<< Karimun Jawa is an island archipelago that consists of 27 islands. The islands are located just north of Central Java, and can only be reached by boat. The islands are declared a national park because of the gorgeous beaches and underwater world. The local fish is also worth tasting.
Jens de Jong

>> My hotspot in Indonesia is Tanjung Puting National Park in Kalimantan (Borneo). I spent three days on a traditional Klotok, a wooden riverboat, observing the rainforest and visiting rehabilitation centers where orangutans get reintroduced into the rainforest. At feeding time the semi-wild orangutans walk right past you!
Chelsea Blaser

PHOTO REPORT



Indonesia



<< The Sendang Gile waterfall at Lombok. The cold water comes from the mountains. You can swim under the waterfall. This is one of the most beautiful things I have seen in my life. The power of the nature; it is wonderful.

Simone van Beethoven

>> Gili is highly recommended if you, besides seeing the beautiful sights of Indonesia, want to relax for a few days. The weather on Gili is great and you can experience a nice underwater world and stunning white beaches. From my own experience I can say it is not uncommon to see turtles while you're snorkeling or diving. *Nicolette van Houwelingen*



A hotspot in Indonesia is the Rinjani volcano, 3,726m high on the island of Lombok. I climbed to the top in three days. I walked about 9 hours each day in the sun, through the rain forest, on pebbles/stones, in the dark, climbing, laughing, and cursing my way up to the mountain. It was hard, but the views made me forget everything. It was wonderful!

Melissa Hoogendoorn



✓ MoMA; I visited MoMA twice. The first time was on a normal Thursday night and there was a regular number of visitors but the second time I went, it was on a Friday night. They were collaborating with a clothing brand who was giving out complimentary tickets. This turned the place into one giant sardine can packed with people!! But it was worth it, because they have some of the best pieces of art I've seen anywhere!! (and some of the weirdest, needless to say!)

Michel Houtkamp

>> Trump Rink in Central Park, New York. I spent quite some time here since it was one of the few quiet spots in the Big Apple. This is unusual, trust me. Furthermore, the Indian summer displayed beautiful colors that year and I even met a few New Yorkers at this place.

Daisy Busker



New York



>> The Maassilo is an icon that represents the development of the harbor and the southern workers-district of Rotterdam. Furthermore, it's a great example of achieving sustainability through reusing old industrial buildings for new purposes.

Niek Brink



⚠ Maashaven, future (floating) public space.

Mattijs Groeneveld



<< This picture shows everything the harbour of Rotterdam is about. This is the whole history of Rotterdam caught in one picture.

Steven Kooijman



<< Taken from a penthouse on the promenade of Natal, from a friend's living room. At this moment I knew that my stakeholder analysis would be a success, because through one of my friends we were able to stay the first night here for free.

Luc Bernoster

“Without this village you have not seen the real Brazil.”

>> Itacaré, is an authentic surf village where life is central. It is a great area for surfing and it is surrounded by beautiful rainforests. The nicest thing about this village is that there are so many places a tourist should not miss out on and each place has its own charm. By not visiting this village you will not have seen the real Brazil. *Jeroen Hofhuis*

Brazil

▼ Praia Tambaba: a beach near João Pessoa. To access the beach you need to go through bushes and over rocks, a walk of 10 minutes. It is a quiet beach and very clean, no restaurants. Mostly used by surfers, because of the high waves. *Lisa van Weijen*



▼ This was a very popular eating spot in Campina Grande. In this bar many people buy a bottle of whatever they want to drink when they are having dinner. However, if the bottle has not been finished when you are ready to leave, the bottle is given a personal number, so the next time you come to the bar the rest of your bottle is waiting for you so you don't need to purchase a new one – no waste! *Shaista Polak*

<< This picture was taken in Sao Miguel do Gostoso, Brazil. This sunny area is a hot spot for wind-surfers because of the constant trade winds and the lovely weather. We built wonderful campfire here, barbecued and slept on the beach.

Arthur Schippers



The Real American Burger

America is known as a hamburger country, although New York is more focused on healthy eating and is sensitive to hypes like sushi, the hamburger remains widely available. In each block there is a restaurant available where you can order a burger with fries. We as group have eaten a hamburger more than one time.



LOCAL

The national dish in Cape Verde is cachupa. This dish is prepared with corn, beans, spices, sweet potatoes and cassava. In the luxurious version meat or fish can be added. It is a nutritious and filling dish, and is eaten throughout the day – in the morning, afternoon and evening. Every chef or cook has his own recipe, and because of this it is possible that, depending on where you eat, you will get a different version.

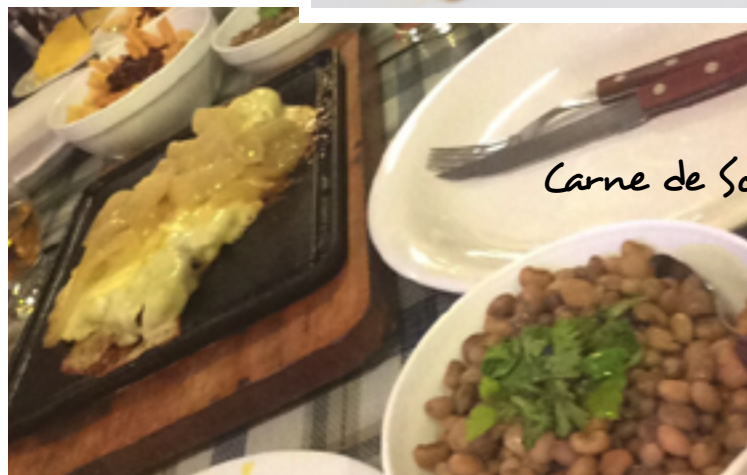
Cachupa from Cape Verde



Pisang Goreng from Indonesia



This dish proves that food doesn't have to be complicated to taste good. Pisang Goreng (or fried banana) is something you will find a lot in Indonesia and is eaten as a snack, side dish or dessert. A topping that is highly recommended is chocolate sauce or honey. In Indonesia Pisang Goreng is often served with grated cheese. In my opinion, it's much tastier without the cheese.



Carne de Sol from Brazil

Typical northeastern Brazilian dish, consists of heavily salted beef with melted cheese and onions. This dish is always served with several side dishes, such as beans, diced tomatoes, white rice and couscous. It is served on a hot plate to keep the meat warm and tender. Each person at the table slices his/her own piece of meat.

FOOD

Pisang Goreng

Ingredients:

- 250 g rice flour
- 160 ml water
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 8 Small plantains
- Oil



Put the rice flour in a bowl and make a well in the center. Put the water and salt into the well. Mix well until a smooth batter forms that is not too thick and not too thin. Peel the bananas and cut them in half lengthways. Dip the banana pieces into the batter. Heat the oil in a frying pan. Fry in oil until the batter is golden brown and crispy. Take them out and allow them to drain on paper towels until they are dry.

Carne de Sol

Ingredients:

- 1 kg rump beef
- 55 g fine salt
- 20 g unsalted butter
- 8 slices cheese
- 2 unions (cut in rings)

Salt half of the meat with half of the salt and massage well in order for the salt to penetrate. Place it in a plastic bowl and refrigerate for 4 hours on the bottom shelf of the refrigerator, which is less cold. Then remove the meat from the refrigerator and salt the other half of the meat (only the red areas) with the other half portion of fine salt.

Refrigerate again, but this time for 12 hours. Water will be drawn out of the meat. Now, just put the meat in a plastic bag and freeze for 5 days.

Let the meat thaw completely in the refrigerator. Put the meat in a plastic bowl and fill with enough water to cover the meat. Leave for 30 minutes, drain the water and repeat the process twice more. While the meat is being de-salted, de-salt the cheese as well in a separate plastic or ceramic bowl filled with enough water to cover the cheese. Let sit for 1 to 1-1/2 hours in total, draining off the water and refilling the bowl with fresh water every 30 minutes during this period. Pat dry the cheese and reserve it.

Pat dry the meat as well with a paper towel or a clean cloth. Divide the meat into 4 thick slices (cut across the grain of the meat) and then cut each of these slices in half so that they are in the form of large squares or cubes, trimming excess if necessary (these small meat trimmings can be cooked along with the other large pieces). In a skillet over medium-high heat, melt half of the butter and then place the 8 large cubes of carne de sol into the skillet. Brown the 6 sides of the sliced carne de sol (about 1 minute on each side).

Pour the remaining melted butter on top of the meat and finish cooking in a preheated oven at 350 degrees F (180 degrees C) for approximately 4 to 5 minutes (rare to medium) or for about 7 to 9 minutes (well done). While the carne de sol is cooking, grill the slices of cheese on both sides in a greased cast iron grilling pan over medium-high heat.

Once the meat is cooked, place on a plate and top each of the carne de sol cubes (steaks) with one slice of grilled cheese and serve immediately.

Ingredients:

Toppings

- 1 lettuce little gem
- 1 large beef tomato
- 1 large onion
- 8 slices of bacon
- 4 slices of cheddar cheese
- 4 tsp Hellmann's mayonnaise
- 4 tsp ketchup
- Slices of pickled cucumber / pickle
- 4 burger buns

Burgers

- 500g minced beef
- 1 clove of garlic
- 1 tsp paprika
- 1 tsp cumin
- 1 small egg
- handful of breadcrumbs
- chilli peppers and salt

American Burger

Mix the minced meat with paprika, cumin and lots of chili pepper and sea salt. Mince a clove of garlic and put it over the meat, add an egg and a small handful of bread-crumbs and mix them all together. Add some extra breadcrumbs if the mixture is too wet.

Make 4 pretty equal-sized balls and flatten them into burgers and place them in the fridge.

Wash the little gem lettuce and tear the leaves apart, put it aside and slice the tomato into thin slices. Cut the onion into rings and fry slowly in olive oil. Fry the bacon until crispy in a dry frying pan, you don't

need extra fat. Place the onions on the side and place the burgers in the pan and fry until they are brown on all sides, and finally place a slice of cheddar cheese on each burger.

Now you can build the burgers. Cut the burger buns in half and start with 2 lettuce leaves, put 1 or 2 slices of tomato on top followed by the crispy bacon, and then the hamburger with melted cheddar cheese. Divide the slowly cooked onions on top of the burgers and finish off with a generous teaspoon of ketchup and Hellmann's mayonnaise. Finally garnish the Real American Burger with a few slices of pickled cucumber or a spoonful of pickle.



Ingredients

- 1 kg potatoes (floury)
- 600 g curly kale (ready to cook)
- A pinch of salt
- 2 smoked sausages (a 250 g)
- 25 g butter or margarine
- 1 tbsp vinegar
- freshly ground pepper

Start by peeling and washing the potatoes and cutting them into pieces. Place the kale and the potatoes in a large pan and add about 2 1/2 cups water and 1 tsp salt. Bring them to boiling over a medium-high heat and let them simmer for another 10 minutes or until the kale has wilted.

Place the smoked sausages on top of the kale and potatoes and let them all cook gently for another 15 minutes. Take the sausages out after 15 minutes put them aside and keep them warm.

Mash the kale and the potatoes well. Then add the butter and vinegar and mix it all together until it is nice and creamy.

Add the salt, pepper and possibly a little more vinegar if required. Serve the mash on four plates and place some sliced sausage on top.

Curly Kale with Sausage

For me this is, of course, a familiar dish: how typical Dutch can it be. It is very easy to make, all you need is curly kale, potatoes and a sausage. And in all its simplicity, very tasty!



Ingredients:

- 4 cups of maize
- 200 g of beans
- 200 g of beef
- 300 g of pig's trotters
- 200 g of bacon
- 2 large potatoes
- 4 smoked spicy sausages
- 2 cassava roots
- 2 sweet potatoes
- 200 g of cabbage
- 2 onions
- 2 bay leaves
- 2 cloves of garlic
- olive oil (to your liking)
- a pinch of salt and pepper

Cachupa

Place the beef (cut into small pieces), bacon, pig's trotters, sausages, salt, pepper, and a stock cube (if you wish) in a saucepan.

Put the maize along with the beans, onions, some olive oil, salt and the bay leaves in a separate pressure cooker cover with water and cook for half an hour.

Next, put the cooked beans and maize in a larger saucepan, cover them with water and bring back to the boil. When boiling, add the contents of the first pan (the meat).

When everything is nearly cooked, add the potatoes and the cabbage. When cooked, take the pan from the heat and leave to cool for a few minutes before serving.

A more sustainable life

Tips & tricks about how to be more sustainable in your daily life.

Genoeg

Genoeg is a magazine about sustainable living, with less stuff, more quality, less hassle and more time. Every two months Genoeg provides inspiration and practical information for a more creative lifestyle and for little money.

"Use fewer plastic bags. In the supermarkets in Indonesia they give you a bag for nearly every product you buy and this is unnecessary waste!" Melissa Hoogendoorn



Alles Duurzaam

Allesduurzaam.nl, the biggest Green Business Directory from the Netherlands has a very useful app in the field of sustainable living. With more than 10,000 addresses divided into 16 categories you will find by entering the desired zip code or city in a snap all the sustainable addresses in your area.



KeurmerkenWijzer

Do you have no idea how to make sustainable choices? Then the app 'KeurmerkenWijzer' will be ideal for you. This app will help you to live more sustainably by giving an overview of labels and logos that are found on products. Milieu Centraal has examined each label to find out how they deal with animal welfare, environmental and social issues.

"Planting a single tree is a better investment for the future of our species than the billions invested in oil and gas!" Mattijs Groeneveld

Groente- en Fruitkalender

Are you at the supermarket and don't have any idea of which fruit and vegetables are a responsible choice? The Groente- en Fruitkalender from Milieucentraal can help you! This app gives you an insight into the climate impact of fruit and vegetables. All products are ranked from A to Z, a product with an A is a responsible choice and Z is harmful to the environment.

Reduce your food print

Your food print indicates how much energy and space you take from the earth with your dietary pattern. For every inhabitant of the world there is 0.9 of a hectare available. On average, we use, in the Netherlands, 2.1 hectares, that is much more than we have available to use. The good news is: you can easily reduce your food print. On the Nutrition Center's website you can calculate your personal food print.

Grocery shopping:

- Make a shopping list and stick to it
- Bring your own bags and refuse to use plastic bags
- Choose fruit and vegetables of the season with the help of the Groente en Fruitkalender
- Choose organic products more often
- Do not buy food in unnecessary packaging and choose bottles with deposits on them

Cooking and eating

- Choose a vegetarian dish more often and/or eat smaller portions of meat (<75 grams)
- Do not cook too much food: weigh your ingredients
- Turn the gas off after two minutes of cooking pasta, rice or boiled eggs. If you leave the lid on the pan, they will continue to cook.



Pictures by Jan Bijl, www.spiritrotterdam.nl



SPIRIT -

Mariniersweg 9 3011 NB
Rotterdam

Spirit is the only restaurant in Rotterdam that has received the bio-label from Mark Foundation Agricultural Agriculture. At Spirit you know for sure that everything you eat is 100% unsprayed and is pure and natural.

The restaurant serves 100% vegetarian ingredients of the season. So, in the winter you can have hearty vega stews and during the summer fruit salads and Dutch organic strawberries are served!

You can choose whatever food you want from the buffet and the best part is; you only have to pay for what you eat! This is fair for people who only have a small appetite, and it also creates less waste.

Overleven op je eigen km2

Dick & James Dick Strawbridge

A nice book for anyone who wants to be a little more self-sufficient and wants to live more sustainably. Besides techniques for making cheese or bread, you will also find ideas from the 21st century to reduce waste, conserve water and to use wind and use solar energy.



- Inspiring book full of ideas for sustainable living
- Great number of illustrations and atmospheric photography throughout
- There's something for everyone in this book – regardless of where you live or how old you are

LIFESTYLE

Marqt

A supermarket full of real and wholesome food in Amsterdam, The Hague, Haarlem and Rotterdam:

"Marqt is where it all comes together.

Other ideas about what we eat.

Respects nature, animals and people.

Products made with passion and responsibility and where a fair price is paid for.

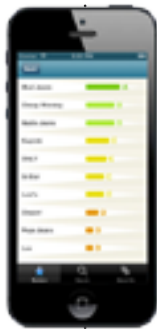
Food that remains close to its origin. Real food."

Not only are the products sustainable, but also how this supermarket works is sustainable. Fresh products that are close to the end of their shelf life are either given to people who can use them or they are converted into energy.



Rank a Brand

With this app you can find sustainable your favorite brands are. The app, based on the themes of environment, climate, labor issues and transparency, shows an overview of important costumer brands and their sustainability scores,. On the website you will also find a lot of information and up-to-date news on companies that are active in the retail sector.



"Don't throw your clothes away if you don't wear them anymore. Do donate your clothes to charity or give them to family or friends. I often give my clothes to the girl next door. The clothes that she won't wear anymore she sends to Romania. There they will be given to children who can't afford to buy clothes themselves."

Nicolette van Houwelingen

Less ... not much. **Reuse** ... can be used again or more than once. **Using together** ... sharing. **Aware** ... having knowledge of a certain thing. **Recycle** ... convert into reusable material.

Be creative and do it yourself! Make your own couch or bed from a collection of old pallets you still have in the shed or garage. On Pinterest.com you can find hundreds of ideas to give old things a new life.

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SYMPOSIUM

During the symposium 'Resilient Area Development' on Thursday the 29th January, students and teachers of the minor program International Cooperation & Sustainable Development and the minor program Transition in the Delta put their heads together to create an informative and interactive day. A keynote speaker, Rutger de Graaf, was invited to introduce the main subject and gave a lot of information about future plans within the water management sector. The students provided the audience, mainly made up of teachers/professionals/students/parents, with workshops. The subjects of the workshops ranged from sustainable poop, different (thinking) perspectives to language barriers, and problem urgency of future waterfront development. The students also made interesting posters about their research abroad, to show to the audience and give them a glimpse of future global changes.

Rutger de Graaf is founder and director of DeltaSync. Mr. de Graaf is a well-known lecturer at Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences, where he is very involved with students and their program through different projects. Mr. de Graaf currently has several students working with him for their thesis.

Mr. de Graaf opened the symposium with an interesting lecture on sustainability and entrepreneurship, which were also important subjects during the minor program. During his lecture Mr. de Graaf mentioned several important developments regarding entrepreneurship, such as globalisation, the growth of social enterprises and the shift from top-down to bottom-up approach. According to Mr. de Graaf a lot

of people are great managers, but not real entrepreneurs. He defines a real entrepreneur as someone who sees an opportunity in a problem, anticipates and takes personal risks in the business world. After the inspiring lecture, we had the opportunity ask Mr. de Graaf some questions relating to the symposium.

What are your first impressions of this symposium?

I have not seen much of it because it has just started, but my first impressions are very positive. I always like to see how students work on different cases. The fact that students have been engaging themselves in the themes of sustainability and social developments is very inspiring!

Where does your motivation for education come from?

I like to work with young people, I have always liked it because you will create new things together, and most of the time, it leads to very good results.

What do you think about resilience?

Resilience has a lot of meanings, but what I do think that is important to resilience, is that you can adapt to changing circumstances. We cannot look as far ahead as we could before; who could have predicted five years ago that we are in the Euro crisis now? Changes are accelerating, and the uncertainties are increasing. So now it is



becoming harder and harder to make plans for the next ten years, because what would the world look like in ten years? No one knows. Ten years ago, Nokia was the largest phone manufacturer, and now they've gone, and so far the iPhone has made the most profit ever in history, but it is possible that in the next ten years, they will not exist anymore. So, changes are accelerating, and what you need to do is become flexible and adaptable and you have to be able to adjust. For me, this is an important aspect of resilience, not the only one, but a very important one. You also have to make sure that you don't miss any trends. To return to the 'Nokia story', they missed out on the entire smartphone trend. They were just not paying attention, and now they are gone. Keep thinking and keep looking around is very important!

What trends do you see in the field of sustainability?

The 'decentralized approach' is being applied very much at this moment. CO2 and climate changes are a global problem and should be solved worldwide but that is very difficult. It is not easy for 197 countries to come to an agreement without it failing over and over again. What you see happening now is that people

are using the 'decentralized approach' and doing it by themselves. If you can get a neighbourhood sustainable, you may create a sustainable city. If you can make that work, maybe then you can make ten cities sustainable. You should actually start at the bottom and see what you can do by yourself. As an entrepreneur, you have a relatively large impact on how you can shape things.

Do you have any tips for the minor program in the future?

Not at this moment, I think the minor program is doing very well from what I've seen and if I see the kinds of countries the students have worked in, the topics that have been discussed, and the local aspects, students actually go to the countries and have contact with the actual people. This will always be a good learning experience!

Would you like to be more involved in a minor program like this?

I like being involved in this way, there are also other minor programs that are interesting and where I can also make contributions. I really like being connected with education through this.

Written by Jasminda Araujo & Kimberly Visser

WORKSHOPS

FROM URGENCY TO PREVENTION The purpose of the workshop was urgency and creating the necessity to solve a problem. The workshop started with provocative statements where people could express their opinions such as "I shower longer than 10 minutes" or "A sustainable world may cost me money". Interesting discussions took place among the participants under the supervision of students where it was clear that their opinions were divided. After the discussions participants were asked to be seated and to look under their chairs, where they would find an envelope with a "cue card" inside. The card said "To act tomorrow is good, today is better, yesterday was the best". The participants were asked what kind of good things they had already done and would do for the world and to write it down.

Then the students asked the participants to discuss, initially in pairs, what kind of problems in the world get too little attention and afterwards in a group discussion, the students asked why, according to them, they were problems. The participants came up with problems such as overconsumption, poverty, communication problems because of language barriers or cultural differences,

the political system, disappearance of the rainforest and the future generation.

The students led the discussion by asking why it was a problem and what they would like to change.

The workshop was very interactive and the participants definitely went home with new insights into how they could be part of change.



CHANGE OF PERSPECTIVE

The workshop 'Change of perspective' showed us how our Western way of thinking influences the solutions to global issues. Does our "further developed society" mean we know how things should be done, or is this 'Western modernity' just one of the many possibilities?

At the start of the workshop it became clear almost no one knew what Western modernity means. As an introduction to the concept, the video '[Want to help someone? Shut up and listen!](#)' was shown. In this Ted Talk, Ernesto Sirolli, a sustainable

development expert, tells us about one of his projects in Africa, and how it failed miserably because of its Western approach and ignorance of its surroundings.

But even if the project works, does this mean it is a success? Western modernity means we try to bring these poor countries up to our standards. But does our “further developed society” mean we actually have a higher standard of living? When shown pictures of people in Cape Verde, most participants of the workshop noticed the happy faces, the social bonds and the overall quality of life, and they asked themselves what makes people truly happy. Is it being able to afford that new iPhone or being together with your family?

These questions remained unanswered, but as we see it, they are proof to our changing perspectives and open the door to true understanding and international cooperation.

LANGUAGE GOES BEYOND WORDS

An interactive workshop on the importance of non-verbal communication with fun games, great stories and shared experiences. 16 participants attended the workshop. During the workshop the instructors gave a brief explanation and several examples of non-verbal communication. An example was the different meanings of hand gestures in countries around the world. The students who provided this workshop had visited Cape Verde, Brazil and America during their field research. The students experienced that power distance; individualism and pragmatism (dimensions of Hofstede) could be considered areas with the biggest cultural differences. The workshop ended with a short discussion and great tips on how to prevent or minimize (negative) cultural differences.



POOP! HOW SUSTAINABLE IS YOUR POOP?

“Sanitation is not a matter of fact for everyone in the world, 2.6 billion people have no access to it and 1.2 billion don’t have any at all. No sanitation causes bad hygiene and it increases the spreading of diseases (like diarrhea, cholera, tuberculosis and fever). Every 20 seconds a child dies due to a lack of proper sanitation.

Two students introduced a possible solution to the sanitation problem; it’s called the compost toilet. It consists of a wooden box with a couple of steps in front

of it. In this box there is a bucket to collect human waste. After going to the toilet, sawdust is placed onto the waste in the toilet, which absorbs moisture and decreases odor. After 3 months this waste turns into compost, which can be used to fertilize the land.

During the workshop we compared the differences (pros and cons) between Dutch sanitation and the compost toilet. The compost toilet is easy to build, sustainable, cheap and without any water wastage. In the Netherlands the sanitation system is very expensive and wastes water, but it’s comfortable, clean and doesn’t need a lot of maintenance. When introducing a new kind of sanitation system you need to look at the environment. You also need to ask yourself: “is it sustainable? Is it possible? Will it be accepted? What are the costs? How hygienic is it? And how does it influence the environment?”

The students provided instruction manuals, on how to make compost toilets, for some of the locals in Cape Verde; who were very excited about the plan. There are still some questions unanswered, which leads to a possible future investigation.

INTEREST AND PERSPECTIVES OF THINKING

This workshop provided information about different perspectives of your way of thinking and made the audience look at those perspectives.

At the beginning the participants were given a case about a situation in Brazil. Based on this case there were two games to play.

The participants of the workshop were divided in two groups. Each group played two games: living memory and interactive role-play.

Each participant had a different role to play. Each role had an individual interest and the goal was to come up with a solution where all the interests of each person will be fulfilled. Meanwhile, participants had to keep their situation in mind the entire time.

In the first game ‘living memory’, every person had a piece of paper with their own role and a need that belongs to someone else’s role.

In this game you had to search for your match by telling sharing information about your own role. Your match had to figure out of the need that was written on their paper, matched with the role you were playing.

During the second game ‘interactive role-play’, each person had a paper with their role and their interests. For this game you had to work together in a group and come up with a solution where all the roles were fulfilled with their needs.

In the end, all the participants understood it was difficult to come up with a solution, when you’re not in a current situation. In this case it’s very hard to imagine how it could be, but eventually you need each other to come up with a solution where everyone’s needs will be fulfilled.

WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT

The students who gave this workshop worked on a possible redesign of the Maashaven. The purpose of this research was to connect the center of Rotterdam with Rotterdam South in a sustainable way.

The workshop started off with a brief introduction of the project and the research findings. The participants were subsequently divided into two groups, those groups consisted of five to six teachers, students and people from the work field. They had to make a concept for a possible redesign. Anything was possible: either uncreative and realistic or non-realistic but creative.

The purpose of the workshop was to gather that last bit of input for a proposal for the client, and it worked! Both groups came up with original ideas;

A floating market, using the existing restaurant-route, placing bridges, moving the shopping mall to a more central location, widening the quay, floating pools or sports facilities and using the businesses from the Creative Factory were just a few of the ideas that were discussed during the workshop.

Photography Rick Keus Fotografie



JASMINDA ARAUJO SIMONE VAN BECK
NOSTER **PHIL MASON-O'BRIEN** CHELSE
BOUMAN NIEK BRINK DAISY BUSKER
HEN **RUTGER DE GRAAF** SIMONE DIOP
HUIS MELISSA HOOGENDOORN **MARLE**
COLETTE **THANK** VAN HOU
I K S A N AMALIA
SEN JENS DE JONG STEVEN KOOLJMAN
DICK LOUWHOFF **LUCAS VAN DER WEE**
SHAÏSTA POLAK ROBIN REEDIJK SUZA
RITMEESTER **ALEXANDRA SWEERS** AR
ROSANNE STEL MICHÈLE VERNÈDE KIM
RA DE VRIES **LEANDER ERNST** LISA V

KHOVEN MEREL SCHULLER LUC BER-
EA BLASER DAFTONY VAN BOSSÉ MIKE
ROSEMARIE VAN HAM ESTELLE CO-
MATTIJS GROENEVELD JEROEN HOF-
ES BEDEKER MICHEL HOUTKAMP NI-
JWELINGEN **YOU** MUHAMMAD
IRIANTIKA JORGE JAN-
ANNEMARIE KLOK LANA KUJUNDŽIĆ
TOM OVERGAAUW CHARLENE PAWIRO
AN REILING **ARIE VOORBURG** YANNICK
THUR SCHIPPERS SLAMET SETIOBORO
MBERLY VISSER **CARRY VAN RIJN** LAU-
VAN WEIJEN **RICK KEUS FOTOGRAFIE**





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