

## MOMAr On-Line Thematic Seminar 2 “Heritage further than tourism”

### Good and Challenging Practices Groningen

Good practice 2 Groningen: Landscape development, cultural identity and leisure;  
New Waterworks Zoutkamp

<p>Short summary of the practice (160 characters)</p>	<p>Due to sea-level rise and the transition to solar- and wind-energy, larger landscape development plans are pending for the Province of Groningen. We have various examples where the linking opportunities between quality of life, spatial quality and identity, sustainability and leisure has been taken into account. In this good practice we learn more about the New Waterworks in the village of Zoutkamp.</p>
<p>Detailed information on the practice (1500 characters)</p>	<p>A quickscan of landscape development plans in the Province of Groningen shows a list of several projects where spatial quality and identity, cultural history, heritage and possibilities for leisure are taken into account. Regarding tourism strategies about heritage and landscape, they are not only related to the reuse of heritage, but also to the use of its experience. For example the Waddensea Unesco Heritage region: mudflats, dykes and more inland a unique landscape with villages on 'Wierden' - manmade hills - and the highest density of churches from the late Middle Ages.</p> <p>Four strategies to convey the usefulness of heritage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o as a signboard to attract tourists and new residents</li> <li>o as a breeding ground to attract start-ups and other pioneers</li> <li>o as a totem pole to give residents something to hold on to and identity</li> <li>o as a meeting place to connect residents.</li> </ul> <p>The whole coastline of Unesco World Heritage site Waddensea has potential for being further developed. Opportunities lay for example in creating more possibilities for overnight stays. Also in the further development of (long distance) hiking and cycling trails.</p> <p>Three landscape development plans in process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New water works and 'Hunsingo' lock in the village of Zoutkamp; climate adaptation, waterways, recreation, heritage come together in one project. Also supported by the local community.</li> <li>- Regional development around the historic harbour of 'Noordpolderzijk'. Investigates how to ensure navigability of the port and attract tourism in combination while maintaining and enhance qualities of the natural and cultural environment. As well as looking for sustainable agriculture and climate adaptation.</li> <li>- Redevelopment of the historic city of 'Appingedam'.</li> </ul> <p>In this good practice we learn more about the <i>New Waterworks of Zoutkamp</i>.</p> <p>The aim of the New Water Works Zoutkamp is to contribute to the futureproofing of the system of canals and rivers in the northern part of Groningen. The way this project aims to achieve this is by on the one hand restoring the old Hunsingo lock (built in 1859) and restoring the function of the old sea dyke. On the other hand by constructing a new pumphouse next</p>

to the old lock to increase the volume of water that can be pumped. To further increase the pumphouse's efficiency, a new set of lock doors are being installed in the village of Schouwerzijl. The whole project is a combination of water management, keep-safe of cultural heritage, quality of life in the village of Zoutkamp and its surroundings, redevelopment of the lock and further development of the tourism marina.



**Resources need (300 characters)**  
The estimated budget for this project is € 31,6mln. The regional water authority Noorderzijlvest takes on the lion's share of this cost, as construction the pumphouse (€16mln) is its main responsibility. Other parties that contribute or support the project are the province of Groningen, municipality Het Hogeland, the National Program Groningen, Erfgoeddeal (Heritage deal) and local business owners.

**Time scale (start/end date)**  
The project is now in the design stage, while at the same time funds are being collected. The project is due to start in 2022 and is to be completed by the end of 2024.

**Evidence of success (result achieved) 500 characters**  
The local community was involved in the project from the very first beginning. Their input has been of the utmost importance to the project, as their ideas helped to turn the project into what it is today. The benefit of having the local community involved lies in the support it generates for the project. It sustains and enhances commitment of the community to the changes in the landscape. With bottom-up ideas and support from residents spatial development is more likely linked to local spatial identity. Regarding tourism and leisure potential of the area, people who actually life in the area can give the best advice. All this enhances the liveability and quality of life of the area. This also limits the number of people objecting to the project and helps speed up the process. And it's not just the local community that is

	enthusiastic about the project, as is reflected by the number of parties involved in the project.
Challenges encountered (optional) (300 characters)	As we're in the design stage, many of the faced challenges are related to that. For instance how to make the lock work as a lock whereas before it used to be a mere floodgate, where to build the new pumphouse and in what style etc. Another issue encountered is to get enough funding to include all opportunities that arose around this project. Examples are the restoration of the 'Muralt dyke protection' (visible on the far left of the above picture) and the restoration of the old harbour lighting.
Potential for learning or transfer (1000 characters)	<p>The mentioned examples show the linking opportunities between quality of life, spatial quality and identity, sustainability and leisure has been taken into account. And how in co-creation between different stakeholders, heritage and spatial identity can be cherished in redevelopment projects. With as a result complete and dynamic cultural landscapes.</p> <p>What the project of the New Waterworks in Zoutkamp shows is the importance of involving the local community in landscape development. The result of this is enhancing the spatial quality and liveability of the area, reduced number of complaints, fewer adjustments to the plans and widespread support in general for a project. Once local support is generated it is much more easy for the initiator to generate funds and get other parties involved in the plans. The project could moreover teach us how to connect different ideas into one project. In other words, to enhance each different subpart into one larger project. A Dutch saying sums this up: 'making work with work'. As mentioned before, the project does not only look at mitigating the effects of climate change, but also includes restoring the cultural history of the town, improving the general quality of living and enhances the recreational value.</p>
Further information (website)	<a href="https://www.noorderzijlvest.nl/ons-werk/projecten/projecten-(lopend)/waterwerken-zoutkamp/">https://www.noorderzijlvest.nl/ons-werk/projecten/projecten-(lopend)/waterwerken-zoutkamp/</a>
Keywords related to your practice	<p>Complete cultural landscape</p> <p>Landscape development</p> <p>Heritage</p> <p>Spatial identity</p> <p>Water management</p> <p>Tourism</p>