

ABSTRACT – THE FUTURE CITIES DIALOGUE

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FUTURE CITIES IS AN EU FUNDED INTERREG IVB PROJECT THAT AIMS TO HELP CITIES TO ADAPT TO CLIMATE CHANGE. NINE NORTH WEST EUROPEAN CITIES AND REGIONS PARTICIPATE IN THE FUTURE CITIES PROJECTS EACH WITH A SPECIFIC CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUE. THE CITY OF ARNHEM AIMS TO FIND SOLUTIONS FOR THE URBAN HEAT ISLAND EFFECTS THAT MIGHT BECOME AN URGENT MATTER IN THE NEAR FUTURE. AN ALTERRA, WAGENINGEN UR TEAM COOPERATED WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF KASSEL ON THE MAPPING OF THE URBAN HEAT ISLAND FOR ARNHEM AND IN A LATER STAGE ALSO THE CITY OF NIJMEGEN. ALL EU PARTNER CITIES AND REGIONS WERE TAKEN ALONG IN THE PROCESS. THE URBAN CLIMATE MAP (UCM) POINTED OUT DIFFERENT AREAS AND TARGETGROUPS AT RISK. THE UCM THEN WAS TRANSLATED IN POTENTIAL MEASURES TO BE TAKEN, THIS RESULTED IN A RECOMMENDATION MAP AT 4 DIFFERENT SCALES: URBAN REGIONAL, NEIGHBOORHOOD, STREETS AND SQUARES, BUILDINGS.

THE SECRET OF THE PROCESS HAS BEEN THE HANDS ON METHODOLOGY OF DIALOGUE. MEASURES NOT ONLY HAVE TO BE ARGUMENTED AS EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT, BUT RATHER MATCHING OTHER SPATIAL ACTIVITIES AND/OR SOCIO-ECONOMIC URGENCIES. IN THE DIALOGUE PARTICIPATED VARIOUS PUBLIC SECTORS OF THE CITY COUNCIL BESIDES OTHER (PRIVATE) PARTIES. THE SELECTION OF MEASURES THEREFOR WAS FOR A GREAT DEAL DONE BY THOSE WHO WILL IN THE END HAVE TO EXECUTE THEM: BASICALLY ALL PEOPLE INVOLVED GOT NOT ONLY THE ARGUMENTS, BUT A COOPERATIVE HANDLING PERSPECTIVE AS WELL. THIS PARTICIPATORY LEARNING AND UNDERSTANDING OF A RELATIVELY NEW PHENOMENON FOR DUTCH URBAN PLANNING IS DERIVED FROM A NATIONWIDE PROGRAM “GREEN METROPOLISES”, FUNDED BY THE FORMER MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, NATURE AND FOOD QUALITY, IN WHICH VARIOUS OTHER BENEFITS OF URBAN GREEN WERE PUT ON THE URBAN AGENDA.