

ESPON Conference Week on Ageing

Monday 30 November – Friday 4 December 2020

Day 3// Wednesday 3 December 2020 // 10:00 – 11:00

Case Study session the Netherlands

Welcome

Thank you Erik and Welcome everyone. Greetings from ESPON and Luxembourg!

This event is part of the ESPON Conference Week on Ageing and takes inspiration from the World Health Organisation Decade of Healthy Ageing.

A group of cities, including Amsterdam and Hengelo, asked for ESPON's support to investigate the effectiveness of policies and initiatives to develop age-friendly cities. We have responded to the cities needs with the project ESPON ACPA that includes a report, a policy handbook, case studies, maps and figures. All these deliveries are available at our website in EN and the SH national languages. We are drafting a policy brief on ageing that will include the outcomes of this conference.

At the opening session of the week last Monday, all parties involved agreed that it is time to join forces in this Decade of Healthy Ageing and work together to achieve more age-friendly territories in Europe. Our proposal to strive for a **Silver Deal** just like the **Green Deal** was well received by participants.

Vice-president of the EC Madame Šuica highlighted that where we live also impacts how we age and that therefore it is vital that cities can be a shining example of intergenerational solidarity, caring and inclusiveness. She added that it is important that we balance our policy-making for older people. Finally she called to seize the moment together to find the best policy solutions to make our cities a wonderful place to live, through the whole life cycle.

I would like to thank all participants, speakers, our partners, namely Ecorys and Nordregio, and the stakeholders that have asked for ESPON's support, in the case of the Netherlands, a special thank goes to Tom van Benthem, Johan OSTÉ, Annemieke KNOL and Yvonne Van WIJK. It has been a huge pleasure to work with all of you!

Thank you and enjoy this session.