

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE TEN NATIONAL /
REGIONAL NETWORKS

2015/2016

CIVINET NETHERLANDS & FLANDERS



THE CIVITAS INITIATIVE
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TABLE OF CONTENT

1 INTRODUCTION	3
2 GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE NETWORK	3
2.1. Terms of reference	3
2.2. Support funding	3
2.3. Fee structure	3
2.4. Membership	3
2.5. Financial administration	4
2.6. Management Committee	4
2.7. Political Committee	6
2.8. Links with other bodies	6
3 DISSEMINATION AND OUTREACH	6
3.1. Sustainable mobility events programme	6
3.2. Third party events	9
3.3. Website and social media	10
3.4. Newsletters	10
3.5. Communications materials	11
3.6. Media relations and advertising	11
4 SUMMARY OF 2015 - 2016 ACTIVITIES	12
4.1. Impact	12
4.2. Challenge	12
5 NEW ANNUAL ACTIVITY AND BUSINESS PLAN	12

LIST OF FIGURES

Table 1: Network events	7
Table 2: Third party events	9
Table 3: Visits to CIVINET webpage 2015 – 2016	10
Table 4: Newsletters	10
Table 5: Leaflets	11
Table 6: Banners and exhibition stands	11

1 INTRODUCTION

This report summarises the activities carried out by the Management Committee and the Secretariat, DTV Consultants, for the Netherlands & Flanders Network over 1 January 2015 to 31 March 2016. It has been prepared by the Secretariat on behalf of the Management Committee.

2 GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE NETWORK

2.1 Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Netherlands and Flanders were revised in December 2013, based on a template provided via the CAPITAL project. They were approved by the Management Committee in December 2013. They were formally approved by the European Commission on May 2014 and have been adopted at the Annual General Meeting of 2015.

2.2 Support funding

Initially launched in November 2011, the Netherlands and Flanders network receives support funding from the European Commission, via the CIVITAS CAPITAL project from 1 September 2013 to 31 August 2016.

The Netherlands and Flanders Network is currently one of ten national networks: Francophone, Italy, Spain & Portugal, and UK & Ireland, Czech Republic & Slovakia, German speaking, Hungary, Poland, and Slovenia- Croatia- South-East-Europe. One further network has recently been established: Romania – Moldavia.

2.3 Fee structure

The General Assembly decided that the admission fee to CIVINET Netherlands and Flanders is zero. Therefore, additional funding from member cities is not applicable.

2.4 Membership

In 2015 the CIVINET Netherlands and Flanders had 20 members. Four new members joined during the year; these were Oss, Region of Turnhout, Roeselare,

and Tilburg. 17 members are local or regional governments, while three are other organisations.

Full members:

Aalst (BE)	Antwerp (BE)
Breda (NL)	Deinze (BE)
Eindhoven (NL)	Hasselt (BE)
Heerhugowaard (NL)	Helmond (NL)
's Hertogenbosch (NL)	Intergemeentelijk Samenwerkingsverband Schelde – Landschapspark (BE)
Kortrijk (BE)	Leeuwarden (NL)
Leuven (BE)	Oss (NL)
Region of Turnhout (BE)	Roeselare (BE)
Tilburg (NL)	

Associate members:

CROW-KPVV (NL)	DCMR (NL)
University of Antwerp (BE)	

2.5 Financial administration

DTV Consultants carried out the administrative activities and the Network's Secretariat from November 2011 until now. Apart from the CAPITAL WP5 budget, there is no other source of funding. The financial administration is therefore limited to the periodic reporting within the CAPITAL project.

2.6 Management Committee

In October 2013 the Province of North Brabant became Network Manager. Since that date we have had regular meetings. During every meeting, new members, recruitment, upcoming CIVINET activities and reporting/administration duties were discussed. Below is a list of Management Committee meetings in 2015. Besides these meetings there was also regular phone contact.

17 April 2015 – 's Hertogenbosch

Meeting with Network Manager, Dieuwke Piebenga, at the Province of Brabant.
Agenda of the meeting:

1. Evaluation of Political event in Brussels. Both Ms. Piebenga and Ms. Venema were present in Brussels. The meeting was informal and pleasant. It was a pity that the meeting had less discussion than expected. A real discussion would have been appreciated. The interaction between CIVINET members was nice and gave a lot of insight information on the difference between the different networks.
2. Ideas for new network events:

3. Political event for Nederland – Vlaanderen. Ms. Piebenga has good contact with a MEP. She would contact him and see if a meeting could be arranged.
 - a. Member activation: members were interested in CIVINET and the different topics. However they seemed to give our network activities not so much attention as we would like. Maybe we should have more direct contact with our members?
 - b. Political activation within our network: it would be nice if we could invite local politicians to a planned activity. A discussion between them could be interesting both for them as for us.
 - c. Subcontract: a contract was not yet in place. Ms. Piebenga would again take action with the financial/legal department to sort this out.
4. Last General assembly meeting (Algemene Leden Vergadering (in Dutch)) was on the 11 of June 2015.

11 September 2015 – Breda

Meeting between secretariat and management of CIVINET Netherlands and Flanders. Agenda:

1. Visits to members: to get a better notion of the members and their wishes the idea was to visit the different members. The secretariat would come up with a more detailed plan.
2. Dissemination and Recruiting new members: the newsletter and the website were channels to spread information and to attract possible new members. To be able to engage municipalities more actively a plan was made to be present at a fair and conference on Mobility. Representing CIVINET with a stand would gain attention and give the possibility to subscribe.
3. Study tour: a nice way to show good practice and to share ideas would be a study tour. DTV Consultants would come up with some ideas for a study tour in the Netherlands or Flanders. First ideas: Helmond – ITS, Amsterdam – Cycling, Antwerp – Ringroad, Rotterdam – SUMP.
4. Private companies – membership? More and more private companies: transport providers and consultancies would like to become members of CIVINET. For the moment the management of CIVINET decided that the network is merely a city network. Other members are not welcome yet. It might be a nice idea to have a special meeting where private companies/entities are invited to share ideas.
5. Political engagement: it is a wish of CIVINET Netherlands and Flanders to engage politicians. A roundtable or a meeting with a Dutch/Flanders MEP would be nice.
6. SUMP guidelines: more members are asking for a translation of the SUMP guidelines into Dutch. In the beginning we thought that basic knowledge of English was good enough so a translation was not needed.

29 September 2015 – 's Hertogenbosch

A meeting took place between the management and the secretariat. A lot of the agenda points of the 11th were elaborated. Focus on visits to the members and being present at the Mobility fair in November.

2.7 Political Committee

In 2015-16 no Political Committee operated.

2.8 Links with other bodies

In 2015-16 the main focus of CIVINET Netherlands and Flanders was finding new members. There was contact with some other bodies: the national government (Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment), national networks (Association of Dutch Municipalities) and knowledge institutes (CROW-KPVV). These bodies attended one or more CIVINET activities.

2.8.1 CIVITAS and other European initiatives

CIVINET Netherlands and Flanders is in contact with individual members. We also tried to team up with the ENDURANCE projects. For both we were in contact with KPVV (the Dutch Knowledge Centre for Traffic and Transport). Ideas were shared and published on their website.

We invited members to take part in the different training opportunities of CIVITAS like the e-courses, training sessions and webinars.

3 DISSEMINATION AND OUTREACH

3.1 Sustainable mobility events programme

Two events were organised in 2015, five will be organised in 2016:

- A General Assembly took place in September 2015 in Antwerp
- A Workshop on 'Stakeholder Participation' was organised alongside the General Assembly in Antwerpen
- In Amsterdam in April 2016 two roundtables will be organised, one on Sustainable Urban Planning and the other on Smart Cycling.
- The Networks will organise a study tour funded through the CIVITAS Activity Fund in Helmond end of May 2016. A political event and a round table are foreseen in 2016.
- The study tour was funded through the CIVINET Activity Fund.

Table 1: Network events

Event	Location	Date	Description of the event	Covering host	Themes	Format	Main sessions / contributors	Type of audience + No. of delegates	Feedback on success of event
ALV2015	Antwerp	15 Sep 2015	General Assembly	University of Anvers	Other	General Assembly Meeting ALV2015	Network Manager, Network Secretariat and members	Members 5	The general assembly was only attended by a limited number of members. This lessened the value of the meeting.
Workshop 'Stakeholder Participation'	Antwerpen	15 Sep 2015	Workshop about involvement of various target groups in the development of (policy) plans	University of Anvers	Demand management strategies	Workshop	Network Manager, Network Secretariat and members	Members, Non-members cities, knowledge institutes	Despite the number of participants being limited, the presentations were of good quality and a nice discussion developed out of them.
Round table discussion Sustainable Urban Planning	Amsterdam	6 Apr 2016	Round table about to obtain insights in how the SUMP concept could contribute to implementation of smart mobility and smart cities ambitions	Intertraffic	Mobility Management	Roundtable	The roundtable was organised within a Smart Cities Side Event at Intertraffic in Amsterdam. This summit started with a plenary session followed by 11 round table discussions.	The audience counted 80 participants from Europe and beyond. Most of them technology suppliers, knowledge institutes, ECF and municipalities. 5 people joined the roundtable on Sustainable Urban Planning	Interesting to have an event at Intertraffic. Transport professionals from all over the world gather here. One negative point, it is a side event this makes that a lot of people subscribe but not all really join.
Round table session Smart Cycling	Amsterdam	6 Apr 2016		Intertraffic	Cycling			The round table on cycling had 6 participants.	
Study Tour*	Helmond	30 – 31 May	The study tour offers an experience a number of great innovations	City of Helmond	ITS, Smart mobility, Cycling	Study Tour	At the end of May 2016, over twenty	22 people joined the study tour	The people enjoyed the study tour. Interesting presentations and sites

		2016	<p>happening in the 'silicon valley' of Europe! For example, the 'road of the future', the Van Gogh-Roosegaarde cycle path, the innovative traffic control centre and the 'crossing of the future'. Local innovators and policy makers will share their experience and practices</p>				<p>participants from eight different countries – backgrounds: municipalities, knowledge institutes, private companies, transport operator - joined the CIVITAS study tour and thematic workshop on Urban Traffic Management and Intelligent Transport Systems in the Helmond region. This double-event was organised by CIVINET The Netherlands & Flanders (DTV) and CIVITAS WIKI (TNO) and hosted by the municipality of Helmond. This location was chosen because the high tech automotive campus is located in this town and as a result many automotive and</p>		<p>to visit.</p>
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							smart mobility innovations are being developed and implemented here.		
Political event		2016							
Round table		2016							

3.2 Third party events

One third party event attended, funded through the CIVINET Activity Fund.

Next to Intertraffic which is the biggest expo and fair on Transport in the World, the Dag van Verkeer en Mobiliteit is the second biggest fair and expo on Traffic and Transport in the Netherlands. In total 1,800 people have visited this day. People who visit are working for local or regional authorities, construction companies, consultancies, transport authorities and knowledge institutes. Main reasons for a visit are: a) to get knowledge on innovations and new developments (75 percent) b) to network (62 percent), c) to visit the stands (59 percent).

Having a stand for CIVINET Nederland Vlaanderen gave good opportunities to meet our members and to introduce ourselves to new members.

Table 2: Third party events

Period	2015						
Name of the event	Location	Date	Description of the event	Themes	Participation	Communication material distributed	
Dag van Verkeer en Mobiliteit / Day of transport and Mobility	Houten	26 Nov	Event for public and private organisations working in traffic and mobility	CIVINET, CIVITAS and Transport in the Netherlands and Flanders	Stand, giving information. About 1.800 people in total joint the event. About 100 people visit our stand actively.	Leaflets and a give-away!	

3.3 Website and social media

3.3.1 CIVITAS website

Website: <http://www.civitas.eu/civinet/civinet-nederland-vlaanderen>.

The webpages provide a short description of CIVINET Netherlands and Flanders, advantages of becoming a member, advice on how to become a member, a list of existing members, downloads (leaflet and newsletter) and contact information. The website also has a members-only area. This area contains presentations, reports and other documents from past activities.

In 2015, the Network's page on civitas.eu was viewed 428 times. This represents a decrease of yearly visits compared to 2014 (2389 times).

Table 3: Visits to CIVINET webpage 2015 - 2016

M17-M22 Jan-Jun 15	279
M23-M28 Jul-Dec 15	149
M29-M31 Jan-Mar 16	110

3.3.2 Social media

The network had no interaction with social media in 2015.

3.4 Newsletters

Table 4: Newsletters

Period 2015 - 2016					
N°	Method of distribution	Date of issue	Number of recipients	Topics	Comments
1	e-mail	June 15	65	Mobility Management	
2	e-mail	April 16	65		Not sent at the time of the report

3.5 Communications materials

The leaflets are also given to some of the members to distribute. However, we do not know how many leaflets were distributed by our members. This is a very easy way of promoting CIVINET Netherlands and Flanders as all is detailed and summarized in it.

Table 4: Leaflets

Leaflet			
How many copies have been distributed within the following period:			
M"-2"-M4		M17-M22	
Jul-Dec13		Jan-Jun 15	0
M5-M10		M23-M28	
Jan-Jun 14	200	Jul-Dec 15	0
M11-M16		M29-M36	
Jul-Dec 14	50	Jan-Aug 16	0

Table 5: Banners and exhibitions stands

Banners and exhibition stands			
At how many occasion did you use banners and stands within the following period:			
M"-2"-M4		M17-M22	
Jul-Dec13		Jan-Jun 15	
M5-M10		M23-M28	
Jan-Jun 14	3	Jul-Dec 15	1
M11-M16		M29-M36	
Jul-Dec 14		Jan-Aug 16	

3.6 Media relations and advertising

In 2015 the mobility platform 'Verkeerskunde' published an article: Groeten uit Ljubljana: [http://www.verkeerskunde.nl/reis-door-de-wereld/reis-door-de-wereld/groeten-uit-ljubljana-\(vk6-2015\).42591.lynkx](http://www.verkeerskunde.nl/reis-door-de-wereld/reis-door-de-wereld/groeten-uit-ljubljana-(vk6-2015).42591.lynkx).

Furthermore, DTV Consultants has its own magazine: Traverse, which is distributed amongst Dutch and Flemish cities and other organisations. A CIVINET article was published in this magazine in January 2015:

<http://www.dtvconsultants.nl/Portals/0/Nieuws/2014/TRVERSE%2036.pdf>.

4 SUMMARY OF 2015 - 2016 ACTIVITIES

4.1 Impact

In 2015 the activities of CIVINET Netherlands and Flanders led to several new members of the Network. Besides having subject-related discussions, members made new contacts during organised activities. Furthermore, the Network page on the CIVITAS website was filled with information as well as the members-only area.

4.2 Challenge

In 2015 we recruited new members and tried to organise interesting events. Thanks to the hard work we now have 20 members. The members are all committed to CIVINET and are interested in the different topics of CIVITAS.

Cities are very busy and also involved in other networks. Although cities are interested in the CIVINET workshops and events, they attach less priority to attending these. It is a challenge to find and organise events that attract many people.

5 NEW ANNUAL ACTIVITY AND BUSINESS PLAN

An Annual Activity and Business Plan has been prepared for 2016, based on a template provided via the CAPITAL project. This was approved by the Management Committee on 1 September 2016 and will be adopted at the next Annual General Meeting on 16 September 2016.