

# RESEARCH REPORT

EKOLARIUM

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## Sustainable Society Minor

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## Executive Summary

The research report aims to help Ekolarium find potential partners and motivate stakeholders to join the coalition. To achieve this, the group conducted qualitative research, during which we interviewed local governments. The report will help the reader understand the current position of potential stakeholders towards SDGs as well as their motivation to join Ekolarium.

The first part of the report introduces the Sustainable Development Goals and the progress of the Netherlands concerning that. Furthermore, the reader learns about the coalition by discussing basic information about Ekolarium as a whole, as well as the goals of our assignment.

The second chapter of the report discusses some background information about Ekolarium and the main theories – Innovation Diffusion Theory and Multi-level Perspective Theory – that were taken into account throughout the project. Besides that, the chapter describes the research questions that were conceptualized to help our qualitative research.

Furthermore, the methodology chapter focuses on the data gathering, which discusses the municipalities involved in our research, the method qualitative interview, moreover the interview guides the group has created to be able to get the most effective results at the end. Besides, the chapter also includes the analysis of the collected data. The paragraph summarizes the interviews from which conclusions had been drawn.

The latter two chapters describe the results of the research which we could create recommendations to help the coalition to contribute their goals. It gives an overview of the perspective of the local government on SDGs and how they're working to implement them. Based on the results, not only general advice has been given, but recommendations for the national government, for the municipal government, and advice for Ekolarium as well. data. The paragraph summarizes the interviews from which conclusions had been drawn.

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## Introduction

At the three-day World Summit on Sustainable Development in New York on 25 September 2015, the 193 member states of the United Nations unanimously adopted a historic, new global development agenda aimed at eradicating poverty by 2030 and building a sustainable future. The new sustainable development agenda focuses on 17 global goals. The new agenda, which introduces a new era of national programs and international cooperation, commits all countries to a series of actions that address the root causes of poverty, economic growth, prosperity, health, education and social needs while focusing on the environment.

Regarding the Netherlands, the figures in the figure below show the number of targets achieved and the number of targets not yet met for SDGs.

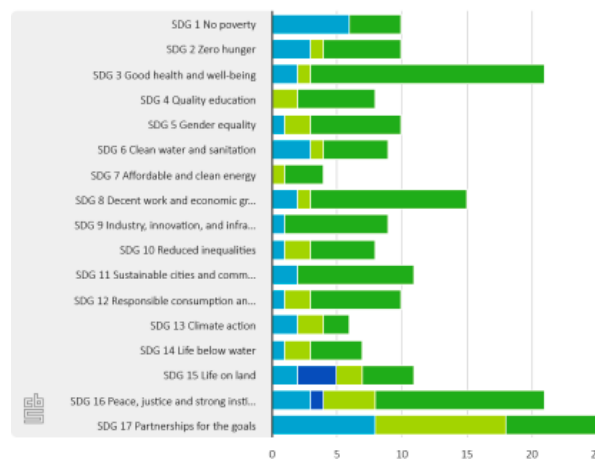


Figure 1.1 Number of SDG-targets by type for each SDG

The "Ekolarium" was formulated as a collaborative project between various stakeholders in Friesland, which is based on the idea of the Danish "Økolariet", a museum that educates children about sustainability through interactive exhibitions, with the aim of changing society's linear economic mindset in the future, by achieving small behavioral changes in children. The research carried out by the group explores the motivations of local governments in Friesland to join the coalition and to learn about the current policies of municipalities with SDGs.

## Project Goals

Currently, Ekolarium is struggling with a lack of stakeholder motivation and investment, which means stakeholders in the government sector in particular. So far, it has not been clear to organizations what responsibilities they have to the public with regard to SDGs, so it was difficult for the coalition to convince stakeholders of the benefits of the project. Therefore, the aim of our project is primarily to research potential local governments. In order to strengthen the coalition, we need to find more new potential partners. In addition, we need to research how to motivate partners to join the coalition.

## Background

While the Netherlands is taking steps to reach the goals outlined in the Dutch Integrated National Energy and Climate Plan 2021-2030 (NECP), more can still be done by independent organizations and provincial and municipal governments around the country. These goals, including reducing greenhouse gasses by 49% by the year 2030, correlate to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) laid out by the UN, for which each country must create their own procedures and plans (Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy, 2019). Many organizations are developing projects that contribute to the realization of the SDGs, some of which are supported by local municipalities.

Ekolarium is based on the successful implementation of the same concept in Vejle, Denmark. The Danish Økolariet is described as a “science and edutainment” center where visitors can interact with the eye-catching exhibits to learn about sustainability. The target audience includes (but is not limited to): children, school groups, families, and tourists. The end goal of Økolariet (and Ekolarium) is to inspire visitors to “incorporate sustainability into their everyday lives” (“Økolariet,” n.d.). Project leader Jildou Dooper describes this ambition as inspiring small behavioural changes, which have the potential to lead to long-term involvement with sustainability.

In addition to being a museum with interactive exhibits, Ekolarium aims to be a central hub for all things SDG-related in Friesland; a physical space where sustainable projects around the province can be presented, promoted, and connected to one another.

## Theory

Two main theories were taken into account throughout the development of this project, the Innovation Diffusion Theory and the Multi-level Perspective Theory. Initially, the Innovation Diffusion Theory was planned to be implemented after the interviews were completed, as a method of analyzing the plausibility of Ekolarium being successful in Frisian culture in a scientific manner. What was discovered as the assignment progressed; however, was that the scope of the project was more focused on giving recommendations to relevant stakeholders, including Ekolarium, relating to local governments. As a result, the Innovation Diffusion Theory was no longer applicable to the aim of the research assignment. The theory is still potentially useful for Ekolarium, although further concept development would be needed first before analyzing the rate of which new ideas/innovations are adopted within a society/group of people, and why this is the case (Rogers, 2003).

The latter, the Multi-level Perspective Theory, was planned to be used throughout the assignment by identifying prominent factors in all three levels, with the aim of gaining more

insight into the possibility of integrating Ekolarium into the regimes of Friesian culture. The following excerpt is from the Ekolarium Project Plan, submitted March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021:

### **Multi-Level Perspective Theory**

Acting as an analytical tool to deal with societal change, this theory also looks at the possible resistances to innovation an audience may have (Steward, 2012). As demonstrated in Figure 1 below, the landscape level concerns the external context of interactions. In the case of Ekolarium, the landscape would consist of societal, environmental, and economic factors in Friesland. Next, regimes consist of the “mainstream activities and structures” (United Diversity, 2019) of the factors affecting landscapes, and deals with the guidelines/parameters of these processes. Lastly, the niches level incorporates elements from the previous two levels to introduce the opportunity for innovative ideas to take shape. It is within this perspective level that ideas such as Ekolarium and other SDG-related initiatives around the Netherlands are created. The purpose of this assignment is to research the feasibility and methods to incorporate Ekolarium in the regimes that exist in Friesland, such as the community and local culture.

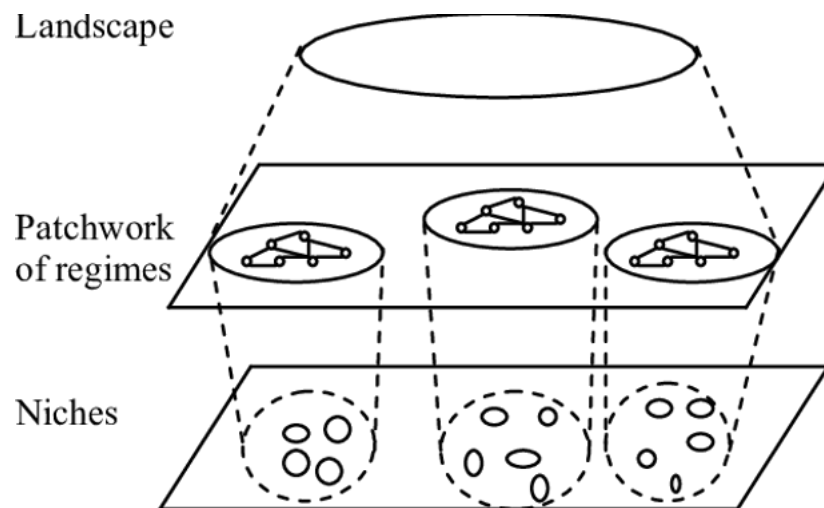


Figure 1: Multi-Level Perspective Theory Diagram

### **Research Questions**

The purpose of developing research questions is to define the scope and intent of the research, so that the results are more specific and applicable. Considering the ambition of the assignment was to learn first-hand how governments and governmental organizations can contribute to Ekolarium’s launch, the following research questions were conceptualized to help direct the qualitative interview questions.

**What kind of role can (or even should) the government play in raising awareness of the SDGs to citizens and companies to initiate the required change?**

The main research question for this project was created and posed by the project leaders, Jildou and Jan Sietse. This question is based on the target audience of our research report, the local (Frisian) government and governmental organizations, and requires that our team investigate the motivations behind each stakeholder for joining the Ekolarium coalition.

**What is the current policy of local governments towards SDGs?**

In order to analyze what role the government should play, we first need to accurately assess the current status of SDGs and SDG-related projects with regards to local policymakers. By differentiating between municipalities in Friesland that have already implemented SDG actions and those who haven't, we can deduce the general governmental perception of SDGs, which will help with the following research question.

**How can we motivate municipalities to join Ekolarium?**

This sub-question is targeted towards a more local target audience, the relevant municipalities in and around Friesland. The purpose of this sub-question is to look into the various theories and techniques used to motivate specific stakeholders, such as the Innovation Diffusion Theory, and to analyze the related societal concerns.

**What can we take away from the Danish Økolariet to incorporate in the Dutch Ekolarium?**

Narrowing into a more focused approach, this final research sub-question is concentrated more on the functional processes, rather than the strategic approach, the result for which will be taken into account when conducting the interviews.

## Methodology

### Data Gathering

In the province Friesland there are municipalities that are focusing more on SDGs than other municipalities. Municipalities that are doing a lot with SDGs are most of the time member of 'Municipalities 4 Global Goals'. These municipalities act from perspective of the global community. The municipality feels co-responsible for the emergence of consequences of global transactions. Among other things, the capacity of the planet, interests of people elsewhere in the world and future generations are taken into account when implementing local policies (VNG, 2021). During this research the focus was on municipalities in Friesland that are member of 'Municipalities 4 Global Goals'. The involved municipalities are Súdwest-Fryslân, Waadhoeke, Leeuwarden, Tytsjerksteradiel, Smallingerland, Heerenveen, and Opsterland (VNG, 2021).

### Interview

During this research, the results were obtained through interviews. An interview is a questioning in which the perception of the interviewees is central. By interviewing members of the municipalities and other relevant organizations the possibility of the organizations' support for Ekolarium was discussed. There are different types of interviews, during this project semi-structured interviews were used. The semi-structured interview contains a topic list, but there is also room for personal input (Verhoeven, 2016).

Most interviews were held with members of municipalities in the province of Friesland. Members of other relevant organizations; Fossylfrij Fryslân, SDG Netwurk Fryslân, FBWK, Friesland Province, Vereniging Friese Gemeenten & Wetterskip Fryslân.

Unfortunately, it was not possible to conduct live interviews due to the corona virus. The interviews were conducted online using Microsoft teams. This had several advantages, including the efficiency and degree of openness increasing. The lack of direct contact can be seen as a disadvantage. With the consent of the interviewees, the interviews were recorded. This way the interviews could be listened back later to write a summary afterwards (Baarda, et al., 2018).



## Interview questions

### Opening

1. Which municipality/organization do you work for?
2. What is your specific role?
3. What is your organization's stance (view) on SDGs?
4. Does your organization already have SDG policies in place/are you working towards implementing them?

*If YES, continue below*

*If NO, continue at question 7*

5. What policies are being enacted, can you describe them?
6. What has the response of the public been to those policies so far?
7. Are there currently any projects running similar to Ekolarium within your municipality/organization?
8. Had you heard of the project Ekolarium before today?
9. Would you/your organization consider supporting Ekolarium (joining the coalition)?
  - a. Why/why not?
10. What would help convince you to join Ekolarium's coalition/give your support?
11. What would you say to those in a municipality/organization that doesn't already support SDG projects to get them to contribute their support (time, effort, money, etc.)?

### Closing

12. Is there anything else about SDGs in Friesland/SDG-related projects in your municipality/organization you'd like to share?
13. Additional contact persons?

## Data Analysis

Both municipalities Leeuwarden Súdwest-Fryslân stated that they are an SDG-municipality. Bouwe de Boer from the municipality Leeuwarden said that a lot of his colleagues do not know what SDGs are. That is why he thinks that the municipality can improve. 'How can we achieve that all the colleagues know about the SDG' and make it a part of their job?' Bouwe said. 'This a good question to answer to improve the SDG-municipality.'

Anne van Scheltinga said that the SDGs have been a guiding principle when formulating the policy. Whether it is actually acted upon is a question that Anne is not quite sure of. 'Expressing ambition and acting on it do not always coincide, for example, the Netherlands are lagging somewhat behind in climate objectives.' Anne said.

Ageeth Thibaudier said that the municipality Súdwest-Fryslân is working more with SDGs step by step. In the future the municipality wants to use the SDGs as a checklist for every major change in policy. The new policies also must be good for the people and the planet, not only for the profit. This vision must be made official, because it is not official yet.

Bouwe de Boer said that it is hard to start an initiative like this because a lot of other initiatives for children are broke in a few years. If you want something like the Ekolarium, you must connect to a lot of parties. Bouwe gave as advise that it is very important to work together with existing initiatives and make the existing initiatives stronger. These initiatives should see the Ekolarium as an opportunity to get stronger themselves.

Arie van der Sluis also said: 'Connect with several organization when knowing what the policy is and start working together. The government believes that working together is good so that's probably the best solution.'

Anne van Scheltinga said that the municipality Súdwest-Fryslân is now working on a program where communication and awareness are important. How the municipality will do this exactly is not yet known but it could be that the Ekolarium is included in this program. Anne could not say for sure if the municipality would consider joining the coalition, because the municipality is not yet far enough with the future plans. Anne also said that the SDGs get a bit in the background due to Covid and certain objectives are not achieved.

Herman Groenewold, Senior Advisor for the province Friesland said that it is difficult to introduce SDG-projects because the current overall government does not focus on SDGs.

Herman thinks it is important to keep students involved. He also thinks it is important to work together with other organizations, like SDG Network Friesland.

Dirk van den Berg thinks Jildou should talk all members of the SDG Network, there is a meeting every 6 weeks. 'When the project is farther along, have a presentation for SDG Network Friesland discussing Ekolarium's needs & interests, and how the other organizations can support.' Dirk said. Dirk also advised to Jildou to interview children, so she knows exactly what they want from Ekolarium.

Dirk also said that in general, no local governments are involved in promoting SDGs, but they will promote some specific activities (such as switching to renewable energy), but they don't realize that they're related to the SDGs. Dirk thinks this is just a matter of time.

## Results

### **What kind of role can (or even should) the government play in raising awareness of the SDGs to citizens and companies to initiate the required change?**

Governments can be very influential for their constituents as a result of their level of authority and high status within a society. Local governments (national, provincial, and municipal) should first and foremost take on the responsibility of raising awareness of the SDGs to the general public. This would benefit society as a whole because citizens will have a better understanding of the goal they're collectively working on. In addition, governments should focus on educating all civil servants on Global Goals-related projects, so that improvements can be made to bring forth a more sustainably effective plan. Lastly, the various levels of government need to invest more public support in local SDG initiatives, through any means necessary, but especially by investing time, energy, and money.

### **What is the current policy of local governments towards SDGs?**

Most municipalities are in the starting phases of becoming an SDG-municipality. As also stated in the first research question, a lot of members of the SDG-municipality are not aware of the SDGs. Regarding the policy's, a lot of municipalities have drawn up the 'Omgevingswet'. Some municipalities are still working on it, but the goal is to take all the SDGs into account in drafting future policies.

### **How can we motivate municipalities to join Ekolarium?**

Most municipalities could not say at the moment if they were able to support the Ekolarium in the future. They are not far enough with their future plans to make a statement about this. This research put the Ekolarium to the attention of the municipalities. Municipalities are enthusiastic about the idea, but it needs further development in the future to make the Ekolarium become a reality. Once the concept is more concrete, perhaps even prototyped and tested physically in small capacities, a formal pitch should be done for SDG Netwurk Fryslân and all their partner organizations.

### **What can we take away from the Danish Økolariet to incorporate in the Dutch Ekolarium?**

Økolariet has been decidedly successful within the parameters of their market in Denmark. Amazingly, the project is a "state-supported experience centre", meaning funding is given by the local government. In addition to providing a secure market share, the program in turn establishes a strong sense of support from the local community because it brings in lots of business, with around 90,000 visitors each year ("Økolariet," n.d.). Although the same opportunity would not be possible in Friesland based on the current conditions, some elements of Økolariet can be brought over. For instance, the general concept of the project stays the same between countries, as well as the main audiences it will target. In addition, depending on the space available, the exhibitions (both permanent and temporary) will be similar, as the message of both projects is the same.

## Advice/Recommendations

Based on the results derived from the qualitative research conducted, recommendations were reached for the various main stakeholders involved.

### **General Advice:**

Broken down into a simple, 3-step plan, the general advice for all audiences is concise and memorable. The first step is Educate; introducing people to the SDGs and basic principles of sustainability, as it was discovered through the interviews with local municipalities that many civil servants are still unaware of their existence. The second step, Relate, concerns examining all pre-existing and ongoing projects and connecting them to any relevant SDGs; this demonstrates to all employees how easily the concepts are applicable in their lives, as well as teaching them how to recognize individual SDGs. The third and final step is Evaluate, in which areas that still need more work are identified, and all brainstorming for future projects can be done. The Educate, Relate, Evaluate plan is based on the feedback given by the municipal representatives and the parallel need of Ekolarium, which is simply more awareness leading to support.

### **National Government Advice:**

Although the National Government is not a direct stakeholder in Ekolarium, if implemented, the following recommendations would benefit all provinces, resulting in lasting benefits for municipalities, and, through eventual new policies, organizations like Ekolarium. First, it is recommended that the Global Goals be rooted in the foundation of all new policies and agendas, regardless of the political party. Next, the national government could work with VNG (Vereniging van Nederlandse Gemeenten – The Association of Netherlands Municipalities) to persuade all municipalities to become official Global Goals Municipalities. These recommendations are relatively simple to accomplish but would make a world of difference for organizations lobbying for change.

### **Municipal Government Advice:**

The advice for the Municipal level of government is similar to that of the National level; however, the steps in the aforementioned Educate, Relate, Evaluate plan begin to become apparent the more localized the advice is. Again, it is recommended that all municipalities work with organizations such as VNG, or their region-specific equivalent like VFG (Vereniging van Friese Gemeenten – Association of Frisian Municipalities). The second piece of advice for Municipalities is to begin educating all their civil servants on SDGs so that a more open and active line of communication can be opened between employees and the public. Lastly, wherever possible, municipalities should support their local SDG initiatives and projects through time, energy, money, or however they can.

### **Advice for Ekolarium:**

The most specific advice of all is unsurprisingly directed towards Ekolarium itself. While the concept is very strong and all current and potential partners in the coalition are supportive of the creation, further research and development is needed before reaching the next stage. Although

a plethora of information was gathered and utilized within the scope of this assignment, it has become evident that this was only a small part of the stakeholders involved which need the same amount or more research into. Once the concept is more concrete, perhaps even prototyped and tested physically in small capacities, a formal pitch should be done for SDG Netwurk Fryslân and all their partner organizations. This is recommended because of the already established and vastly reaching network of potential partners that SDG Netwurk Fryslân has created. This idea was discussed with Dirk van der Berg of SDG Netwurk Fryslân during the initial interview, as well as during the final project presentation market at NHL Stenden in mid-June, and both times was met with enthusiasm and support. The final piece of advice for Ekolarium is to focus more on gaining support from related organizations (such as SDG Netwurk Fryslân or the Sustainable Society minor projects), rather than concentrating on mainly governmental/municipal support. While all stakeholders have value for Ekolarium, the shared resources and support between organizations with similar ambitions is unmatched.

## Conclusion

The idea of the Ekolarium was formulated based on the Danish Økolariet. A museum that educates children about sustainability through interactive exhibitions so that society's sustainable way of thinking can change in the future. The project focused on the government sector to research the motivations of Friesland municipalities to join the coalition, which was essentially the main aim of our research, and to provide meaningful advice to the Ekolarium to make it an accepted part of the system.

Two main theories have been considered in the research, the theory of innovation diffusion and the theory of multilevel perspective. Concerning the diffusion theory of innovation, as the project progressed, we realized that the assignment was mostly aimed at making recommendations to the relevant stakeholders, so the theory could not be applied for the task. We designed the multi-level perspective theory to gain insight into the possibility of integrating Ekolarium into Frisian culture systems in a way that identifies outstanding factors at all three levels. The elaboration of the research questions was created taking into account the ambition of the task.

Four main research questions were formulated, in which the main question was articulated by project leaders, Jildou and Jan Sietse. Each is based on the target group, the Frisian government and governmental organizations, from different perspectives. The municipalities concerned are Súdwest-Fryslân, Waadhoeke, Leeuwarden, Tytsjerksteradiel, Smallingerland, Heerenveen and Opsterland. However, members of other relevant organizations; Fossylfrij Fryslân, SDG Netwurk Fryslân, FBWK, Friesland, Vereniging Friese Gemeenten & Wetterskip Fryslân were also involved in the research. Interviews were conducted online concerning covid-19, which were recorded and then summarized.

Based on the results, the following conclusion could be drawn. Local governments need to make the public aware of sustainable development goals for citizens to better understand the goal. Furthermore, governments need to focus on educating civil servants regarding SDGs so that

improvements can be made to effective sustainable plan submission. In addition, levels of government need to invest more public resources in local SDG initiatives, especially time, energy and money. The research revealed that most municipalities are in the initial stages of becoming SDG municipalities, some municipal members are unfamiliar with SDGs. However, it also turned out that most municipalities are currently unsure whether they will be able to support the Ekolarium. The concept needs to be developed, possibly prototyped and slightly physically tested. For example, the project concept and audience would remain the same across countries. Finally, the advice generated after conducting the research is formulated at different levels.

The general advice was divided into a three-step plan: Educate, Relate, Evaluate. Drawing a parallel between the feedback from municipal representatives and the need for the Ekolarium, the plan leads to greater awareness leading to support. Furthermore, if the Ekolarium is implemented, it may be beneficial for the provinces to take the recommendations into account, even though the national government is not directly involved in the Ekolarium.

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# Appendices

## Appendix A: Presentation for Sustainable Society project market

Link to view Prezi: <https://prezi.com/view/RwPV7pCBOCVIsYjCx7Mw/>

### Overview



### Introduction

**Introduction**

Ekolarium

Goals

**Ekolarium**

- Central SDG hub
- Interactive museum
- Open in 2022

➔ **Target groups:**

- Children & young students
- Families
- Tourists

**Goal of Ekolarium**

- Inspire small behavior changes
- Increasing knowledge on SDGs

**Goal of our Project**

- Provide advice for how to proceed
- Research how local governments/ organizations can contribute



## Research



**Municipalities**

- Leeuwarden
- Sudwest-Fryslân
- Tytsjerksteradiel
- Opsterland

The slide includes four flags: the flag of Leeuwarden (blue with a yellow lion), the flag of Sudwest-Fryslân (black and white diamonds), the flag of Tytsjerksteradiel (white with a red cross and green leaves), and the flag of Opsterland (red and white squares).

**Other Organizations**

- Fossylfrij Fryslân
- SDG Netwurk Fryslân
- FBWK
- Friesland Province
- Vereniging Friese Gemeenten
- Wetterskip Fryslân

The slide features logos for Fossylfrij Fryslân, SDG Netwurk Fryslân, FBWK, Friesland Province, Vereniging Friese Gemeenten, and Wetterskip Fryslân. At the bottom, it says "provinsje fryslân provincie fryslân" with a red heart icon.

## Results

**Results**

- Early stages of SDG implementation
- Current & future SDG policies
- SDG-municipalities members unaware
- Other potential partners

The slide includes an icon of a magnifying glass over a document.


## Value Added

**Value Added**

- Promoting SDG knowledge & projects
- Insight of how municipalities are working with SDGs
- New ideas of potential partnerships

The slide includes an icon of a hand holding several stars.

## Advice



**General Advice**

**Step 1: Educate**

- Introduce stakeholders to the SDGs

**Step 2: Relate**

- Connect existing projects/initiatives to relevant SDGs

**Step 3: Evaluate**

- What areas need more work?
- How can we involve the various stakeholders?

National

Municipal

Ekolarium




**Advice on the National Level**

- Implement nation-wide SDG policies in the foundation of political agendas
- Work with VNG to make all municipalities Global Goals Municipalities



**Advice on the Municipal Level**

- Work with VNG (Association of Dutch Municipalities) & VFG (Association of Frisian Municipalities)
- Educate civil servants on SDGs
- Support SDG initiatives (time, energy, money)



**Advice for Ekolarium**

- Further concept development needed
- Pitch to join SDG Netwerk Fryslân
- Focus on garnering support from other SDG organizations rather than local governments

Interview Summary  
Bouwe de Boer  
Municipality Leeuwarden / Fossilvrij Fryslan  
[bouwe.deboer@leeuwarden.nl](mailto:bouwe.deboer@leeuwarden.nl)

- Which municipality/organization do you work for?
  - Bouwe de Boer works for the municipality in Leeuwarden. It is one of the 18 municipalities in Friesland, and Leeuwarden is the biggest municipality. There are 115.000 inhabitants in the municipality Leeuwarden. Bouwe is already working on renewable energy for 30 years. Bouwe started working with a fixed program in the beginning, but as the years passed by, he got a free role in which he can decide for himself what he does.
  - Every day he tries to find people who wants to do something special in the renewable energy world. Bouwe helps these people to connect them and to make a huge program.
  - He started an organization called 'Fossilvrij Fryslan'. It is an organization with 130 members. Members are people from installation companies, schools, municipalities, electric car companies, building companies, advisors etc. These members want to speed up with the renewable energy world. Bouwe makes programs for these organizations to work together. If Bouwe listens good to the members and companies, he can make an organization where they like to be a part of it.
  
- What is your specific role?
  - Bouwe is working on SDG number 7, but he realized only working on energy is not enough because it also has to do with other SDG's. For example, that is why he also started groups which are working on biodiversity. A reporter of National Geographic found out that there are five areas in the world where people get much older than normal. They found out why they get so old. Bouwe thought: 'Why shouldn't we be blue zone number six?' He started an organization called 'Blooming zone'. It looks like the SDGs because it is good for everybody. Bouwe is one of the members responsible SDG number 7 for SDG-network Fryslan. Bouwe knows the people responsible for other SDGs very well. He can make the connection between all the SDG's and blooming zones and all the things together.
  
- What has the response of the public been so far?
  - Bouwe got a lot of positive and enthusiastic reactions on the blooming zones idea.
  
- Does your organization already have SDG policies in place/are you working towards implementing them? What policies are being enacted, can you describe them?

- Bouwe does not exactly know what the policy regarding SDGs of the municipality Leeuwarden is, but he knows that Leeuwarden is an SDG-municipality. Bouwe thinks the municipality can improve a lot because a lot of Bouwe's colleagues do not know what SDGs are. 'How can we achieve that all the colleagues know about the SDG's and make it a part of their job?' is a good question to answer to improve the SDG-municipality.
- Had you heard of the project Ekolarium before today?
  - Bouwe heard about Ekolarium before this minor started, because he talked to Jan-Sietse Haarsma about the Ekolarium in Denmark.
  - Bouwe also talked about it with Jeannet Bijleveld, she works for Wetterskip Fryslan. Bouwe advised that she is a good person to talk to during this investigation. Jeannet and Bouwe both are innovators and must think about new ideas. For example, Ekolarium is an initiative to get parents and children involved in the world of the future. If somebody never heard about sustainability, that person will never be interested in sustainability. New ideas make people aware of certain topics. Another example is the race of the solar boats. Bouwe started with the initiative of a solar boat race in Friesland with one goal: to involve young people with renewable energy. In the past Bouwe met some people who participated in a competition with cars who drive on solar energy in Australia. They told Bouwe how motivated they were to make the world a better place after they participated in the race. In 2003 Bouwe started the initiative, now years later thousands of young people are now connected to renewable energy due to the solar boat race. Ekolarium is focusing on that world, to show young people things they didn't know and then they discover they can do something about it. Another example, the Science Museum NEMO displays a lot of special things about science, if people want to discover sustainability, they must go to Ekolarium.

- Would you/your organization consider supporting Ekolarium (joining the coalition)?
  - It is hard to start an initiative like this, a lot of other initiatives for children are broke in a few years. If you want something like that, you must connect to a lot of parties.
  - Bouwe thinks the Ekolarium is interesting, but some important questions are: how can we make a big success out of it? Which parties should you work together? Is it the municipality, province or is it another party?
  
- Additional contact persons?
  - Bouwe gave three examples of potential partnerships.
  - First example is the new building of the football stadium Cambuur. They want to build it very sustainable and are looking for a connection to the outside world to be a center of stimulating sustainability of this province. They want to show they are doing well in the order of the SDGs and they are looking for partners to do that the coming ten years. The person who is responsible for the sustainability of Cambuur (Edgar van Perlo) contacted Bouwe because he heard about the Ekolarium. It could be interesting for Ekolarium to talk to him because he has already some parties who want to work with Cambuur.
  - Second example is the nature museum in Leeuwarden. This museum always has interesting programs for children to make children aware about certain subjects. This could also be a good connection for Ekolarium.
  - Third example is the Biocentre in Oosterwolde. Their goal is to improve the biological possibilities of the province Friesland. They are looking for more initiatives to come in their building to get more awareness and visitors there. This could also be a good connection for Ekolarium.
  
- Do you have any advice to us to realise the Ekolarium?
  - At the end Bouwe gave as advise that it is very important to work together with existing initiatives and make the existing initiatives stronger. These initiatives should see the Ekolarium as an opportunity to get stronger themselves.

## Interview Summary

Dirk van der Berg  
SDG Netwurk Fryslan  
bergdeboer@gmail.com

- Background:
  - Studied Chemical Technology & Economics
  - Main job is business development (starting new businesses, also abroad)
  
- Which municipality/organization do you work for?
  - SDG network Friesland, started about 3 years ago.
  - Central organization/network & platform for other organizations to promote their policies, responsible for communication between all orgs.
  - In 2020 the first large SDG conference was held with 200+ ppl – main starting point.
  - Since then, all orgs do their own activities, SDG network supports them however possible.
  - Dirk thinks we should talk to all members of the SDG Network (Meetings every 6 weeks).
  
- What is your specific role?
  - Secretary of the network.
  - Provincial coordinator for student projects (“national projects” in Dutch)
    - Mainly organized by SDG House Amsterdam.
    - Dirk tries to promote student projects such as the ones from the Sustainable Society minor.

- What is your organization's stance (view) on SDGs?
  - Trying to promote all 17 SDGs.
  - SDG Network Friesland's website (not a good communication means, so Sustainable Society students are developing social media).
  - There are very few people in Friesland actually working on SDG related projects, so Dirk wants to promote activities so more "regular people" will get involved.
  - All Sus. Society minor projects are connected.
  
- Does your organization already have SDG policies in place/are you working towards implementing them? What policies are being enacted, can you describe them?
  - SDG network houses (some are physical buildings, some are networks like Friesland).
  - Positioned in 12 locations, (Amsterdam was 1<sup>st</sup>, The Hague, Gelderland Province, Maastricht, Friesland.
    - Dirk wants more in the northern provinces.
  - SDG Nederland (from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
    - Dirk is a member (doing national activities + cooperating with SDG network Friesland).
  - Dirk wants Friesland to stay as a network/platform rather than a physical location. All orgs are responsible for their own activities, but sometimes they work together to make activities stronger.

- What has the response of the public been to those policies so far?
  - Held an impact meeting - students are now working on improving external communication (with a website & social media).
  - 200+ ppl attending the initial conference was very good
  - Another task at the time was newspaper columns about SDGs – was not popular with the public.
  - Purpose now is mainly to support currently running projects from other orgs in the network rather than running their own activities.
  - When Dirk started working with SDGs they were very unknown, even now people don't recognize "SDG talk", but they do know about issues like energy consumption.
    - Conclusion: the way you present your thoughts is everything, it needs to relate to public concerns, but first the public needs to be made aware of SDGs.



- Are there currently any projects running similar to Ekolarium within your municipality/organization?
  - Dirk started with the sustainability platform “Sustainable Platform Heerenveen in 2008 & was approached by an org with plans to make something like Ekolarium in the Hague, but more general.
  - For new sustainable industrial product developments, but also for kids
    - They made a brochure, but it was too early to be successful in Friesland, so it was dropped.
  - Hague museum has permanent SDG exhibition for kids & parents, you have to answer 3 SDG questions per SDG to find the best solutions for sustainability. Dirk recommends cooperation/exchange of knowledge & materials with the Hague.
  - Dirk tried to get kids to learn about SDGs previously (2012, Heerenveen, monument for first pilot to fly to & from holland). Organized an event with a local school to have kids create art showing how it was 50 years ago + 50 years in a sustainable future (clothing, farming, traffic, travel, transportation, nature, etc.)
    - Collaboration with Heerenveen library to show off the art – kids visited & were very inspired.
  - Takeaway: “don’t tell kids stories, let them practically participate in activities”
  - Also recommends we interview children, so we know exactly what they want out of this project (not for us, but advice for Jildou).
  
- Had you heard of the project Ekolarium before today?
  - Yes
  
- Would you/your organization consider supporting Ekolarium (joining the coalition)?
  - Work with the other orgs from SDG Network Friesland (also ask all the orgs how they would participate) because all projects/orgs support all projects/orgs
  - When the project is farther along, have a presentation for SDG Network Friesland discussing Ekolarium’s needs & interests, and how the other orgs can support.

- What would help convince you to join Ekolarium's coalition/give your support?
  - SDG Network tried to teach municipalities about SDGs, now some are SDG municipalities.
  - In general, no local governments are involved in promoting SDGs, but they will promote some specific activities (such as switching to renewable energy), but they don't realize that they're related to the SDGs. Dirk thinks this is just a matter of time.
  - "We are in a growing awareness phase. Some organizations are very much ahead, but other organizations are still below/not very active"
  - Need more time to get people more enthusiastic about SDGs in general
    - Should talk to SDG Network Friesland to discuss where Ekolarium should start, because the start is important (should proceed with a pilot & many adjustments)
  
- Is there anything else about SDGs in Friesland/SDG-related projects in your municipality/organization you'd like to share?
  - The use of drones in sustainable activities would interest kids (such as when looking for the bird eggs in fields)
  - Also interesting to talk with companies (Friesland Campina, "middle size companies", "eco-munity park" Oosterwolde)
  - Museum Belvedere in Heerenveen, talking with SDG Network Friesland about how to introduce more green initiatives/activities (one idea was to have a dedicated room for artists to work for 3-month periods) – could be a good place for an Ekolarium pilot?

- Additional contact persons?
  - Helene Schwartze (Spark the Movement, Circular Friesland, Minister of Education?)
  - Dominik Derks (Friesland College)

Interview Summary  
Arie van der Sluis  
Gemeente Leeuwarden & FBWK  
[arie.vandersluis@leeuwarden.nl](mailto:arie.vandersluis@leeuwarden.nl)

- What is your organization's stance (view) on SDGs?
  - They make their policy and each year they see how far they are with their goals. Every decision they make they have to report what it brings in for the goals. The bigger towns in Friesland are very clear about their goals.
- Does your organization already have SDG policies in place/are you working towards implementing them?
  - Few towns busy with their goals and making steps further.
- What has the response of the public been to those policies so far?
  - Public so far very busy with the goals, they find a few issues important within the goals, e.g.: climate checks, clear water.
- Are there currently any projects running similar to Ekolarium within your municipality/organization?
  - No similar projects to Ekolarium, but he Knows Jildou
  - Several ideas that include activities for children: Woudagemaal (old water machine), Afsluitdijk (learning hub). IBN (Organization that is busy with share loan and education).  
Arcadia: developing actions towards goals, bringing knowledge about water for example, to people working with the community.  
Hunger games initiatives → Walking forest, they will plan 660k trees in Friesland and they'll inform the public about climate change and what they can do to help.
- Would you/your organization consider supporting Ekolarium (joining the coalition)?
  - It's all about money and there is lack of money in the province. The education on the SDGs requires a lot of money and it must be a bit more consistent. Working together is the best manner to realize something on that subject. Only a few organizations use SDGs as a measurement for their policy. Water is an important subject in Friesland regarding climate change because if we don't do anything Friesland could get under water. Therefore, education is needed so common action can be taken together with the government and the community.
- What would help convince you to join Ekolarium's coalition/give your support?

- Connect with several organization when knowing what the policy is and start working together. The government believes that working together is good so that's probably the best solution.
- Is there anything else about SDGs in Friesland/SDG-related projects in your municipality/organization you'd like to share?
  - Leeuwarden is a good example; they are working on their goals and all over the organization. Look at website of Leeuwarden Gemeente and read their policy and find connections with Ekolarium. And connection with FMF, Friese Milieu Federatie they are all organizations who busy with education. He thinks that's the best way to work. However, don't have examples at the moment.
- Do you have any contact persons?
  - No other contact person.

Interview Summary  
Anne van Scheltinga  
Municipality Súdwest-Fryslân  
[a.vanscheltinga@sudwestfryslan.nl](mailto:a.vanscheltinga@sudwestfryslan.nl)

- Which municipality/organization do you work for?
  - Anne van Scheltinga is policy advisor water and nature for the municipality Súdwest-Fryslân. Before he worked for the municipality in Súdwest-Fryslân he worked for the municipality in Sneek. Anne and another colleague are responsible for SDG 13 (climate adaptation). ‘Globally we are dealing with the effects of climate change.’
- What is your specific role?
  - The municipality should prepare by becoming more climate-proof and water-robust in 2050’ Anne said. Within the municipality Anne and his colleague are preparing the municipality by drawing up a program to give substance to this municipality wide.
- What is your organization’s stance (view) on SDGs?
  - SDGs are important within the municipality. The SDGs have been a guiding principle when formulating the policy, this can be found in the ‘omgevingswet’. Whether it is actually acted upon is a question that Anne is not quite sure of.
- Had you heard of the project Ekolarium before today?
  - Anne heard about the Ekolarium before today during a climate dialogue where Jildou talked about the Ekolarium, and later Anne talked about the Ekolarium with Jildou.
- Are there currently any projects running similar to Ekolarium within your municipality/organization?
  - Anne did not know if there were similar projects like Ekolarium. Anne knew that in Zwolle is also a project working on climate adaption, but he did not remember the name.

- Would you/your organization consider supporting Ekolarium (joining the coalition)? What would help convince you to join Ekolarium's coalition/give your support?
  - The municipality is now working on a program, where communication and awareness are important. How the municipality will do it exactly is not yet known but it could be that the Ekolarium is included in this program. Anne could not say for sure if the municipality would consider joining the coalition, because the municipality is not yet far enough with the future plans.
- What would you say to those in a municipality/organization that doesn't already support SDG projects to get them to contribute their support (time, effort, money, etc.)?
  - The SDGs get a bit in the background due to Covid and certain objectives are not achieved. For example, there is a greater increase in hunger. In frost, the weak people are usually taken into account more than in times of a crisis. In the west it could be done a little bit more instead of turning it off to developing countries. Expressing ambition and acting on it do not always coincide, for example, the Netherlands is lagging somewhat behind in climate objectives.
- Additional contact persons?
  - Anne advised to contact Wetterskip Fryslan because they have an interesting project in Mozambique.

Interview Summary  
Herman Groenewold  
Friesland Province  
h.g.groenwold@fryslan.frl

- Which municipality/organization do you work for?
  - Province Friesland (in charge of the municipalities, the level between national and municipal).
- What is your specific role?
  - Senior Advisor (in multiple different areas).
  - Somewhat involved with SDGs (although this is a new position for him).
  - Still does a variety of jobs, specifically the internal organization & the development of the organization, cooperating in sustainability projects for small orgs (churches, community centers – how they can make their properties sustainable (funded by the Rijk).
    - he says it's difficult because most people don't know/involve themselves with SDGs.
- What is your organization's stance (view) on SDGs?
  - The overall government is elected every 4 years, the current government does not focus on SDGs so it's difficult to introduce SDG projects.
  - CBS monitors development.
- Does your organization already have SDG policies in place/are you working towards implementing them?
  - Not really. Always contributing to projects whenever possible, but no policies of their own.



- Are there currently any projects running similar to Ekolarium within your municipality/organization?
  - No
- Had you heard of the project Ekolarium before today?
  - No
- Would you/your organization consider supporting Ekolarium (joining the coalition)? What would help convince you to join Ekolarium's coalition/give your support?
  - Combining to work together, like SDG Network Friesland (which hasn't succeeded so far, but he thinks it's a good idea, but the leaders need to stand behind the ideas to get anywhere).
  - Mixed feelings towards Ekolarium...it's a good project to run, but he's worried about a slow start and worried if people would want to go, but it's good to have a physical location.
  - He thinks the network is all talk, he'd want to see tangible results, not just communication.
- What would you say to those in a municipality/organization that doesn't already support SDG projects to get them to contribute their support (time, effort, money, etc.)?
  - One benefit of SDG Network is the common language (goals), so everyone is working together towards one shared goal.
    - Gives people purpose & results, which more people can organize around (projects are organized around SDGs, the more orgs participate the higher chance of success).
- Is there anything else about SDGs in Friesland/SDG-related projects in your municipality/organization you'd like to share?
  - It's important to keep students involved. It's good to have the goals, but individuals should also be made aware of their personally responsibilities
  - "We need less talking and more acting"

- Additional contact persons?
  - <https://www.fsp.nl/brede-welvaart-in-fryslan/>
  - <https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/publicatie/2020/21/monitor-brede-welvaart-de-sustainable-development-goals-2020>
  - <https://sustainablebrands.com/read/marketing-and-comms/is-your-sdg-response-defensive-selective-or-holistic>
  - <https://www.local-matters.nl>

Interview Summary  
Judith Westerman  
Vereniging Friese Gemeenten  
[jwesterman@vfg-fryslan.nl](mailto:jwesterman@vfg-fryslan.nl)

- Which organization do you work for? / Can you tell something about the organization?
  - She works for the associations of Friesland municipalities for about 5 years now. ANV (associations of Dutch municipalities). They are a department of the organization, there are 18 at the moment. They're work with the 18 members and support them on all kind of levels. They have several policy areas, EU and international is one of them. One of the things they do in that area is organize meetings, 3 times a year. They started 3 years ago (EU and non-EU). They try to raise awareness about the possibilities it can bring to Friesland.
  
- What is your role?
  - Several policy areas, EU & non-EU is one of them she's responsible for Rob Jonkman he works with the associations of Dutch municipalities in The Hague and Brussels as well. He's the chairman of this policy area, and Judith supports his activities. She organizes the meetings, invite people, makes the agenda. Through the associations organize meetings, in EU & non-EU.
  
- What is your organization's stance (view) on SDGs?
  - The organization supports the members. They inform them about SDGs. They have Mark de Man from the municipality of Sud-west Fryslan, he's the Frisian spokesman for the SDGs. With different time on their agenda, they inform the members and keep them up to date about SDGs but it's up to the Frisian municipalities to start something with SDGs.

- Does your organization already have SDG policies in place/are you working towards implementing them?
  - Ask the municipalities, there are only 8 members who work with SDGs. They try to inform other municipalities but at the end if they want to pay attention to them.
- Are there currently any projects running similar to Ekolarium within your municipality/organization?
  - Haven't heard of any similar projects.
- Would you/your organization consider supporting Ekolarium (joining the coalition)?
  - All they could do is to spread awareness on Ekolarium.
- Is there anything else about SDGs in Friesland/SDG-related projects in your municipality/organization you'd like to share?
  - Rob Jonkman from the municipality Opsterland, chairman within the association. Not only member of their association but also member of the commission, in the Hague and Brussels as well.

Interview Summary  
Ageeth Thibaudier  
Municipality Súdwest-Fryslân  
a.thibaudier@sudwestfryslan.nl

- Which organization do you work for?
  - Ageeth Thibaudier is advisor for the municipality Súdwest-Fryslân.
- What is your role?
  - Most of the times she works with the team's youth & education. For 4 weeks she works with the SDGs, so she is relatively new with SDGs. At this moment she is trying to find out what here role within the municipality can be.
- What is your organization's stance (view) on SDGs?
  - The municipality is not in the first phase, it won a price for most creative and innovative SDG municipality in the Netherlands for the 'omgevingswet'. The 'omgevingswet' is a new law, in which the citizens were involved. All the SDGs are processed in the 'omgevingswet'.
  - An alderman of the municipality is an ambassador for the province Friesland and his mission is to be the first province in the Netherlands where every municipality is an SDG-municipality. He tries to convince other municipalities to join the coalition.
- Does your organization already have SDG policies in place/are you working towards implementing them?
  - The municipality is working more with SDGs step by step. In the future the municipality wants to use the SDGs as a checklist for every major change in policy. The new policies also must be good for the people and the planet, not only for the profit. This vision must be made official because it is not official yet.

- Are there currently any projects running similar to Ekolarium within your municipality/organization?
  - Ageeth did not know if there were projects similar to the Ekolarium within the municipality Súdwest-Fryslân. She only knows the ‘Technolab’, maybe that is a bit similar.
  - In September there is ‘vlaggendag’, that is a SDG-day. Last year the municipality made a film about citizens in which they tell what they are doing for the SDGs.
  
- Are there currently any projects running similar to Ekolarium within your municipality/organization?
  - Ageeth had not heard about the Ekolarium before, and she did not know if the municipality would consider supporting the Ekolarium.
  
- Additional contact persons / organizations that can be contacted?
  - Spark the movement might be an interesting organization to talk to for the Ekolarium project. It is a Frisian partnership around education and SDGs.

Interview Summary

Tineke Bergsma and Hanny Durkstra

Tytsjerksteradiel Municipality

[tbergsma@t-diel.nl](mailto:tbergsma@t-diel.nl) & [h.durkstra@achtkarspelen.nl](mailto:h.durkstra@achtkarspelen.nl)

- Which municipality/organization do you work for?
  - Both: Tytsjerksteradiel municipality + Achtkarspelen municipality
- What is your specific role?
  - TB: Mostly tourism. She splits her time between working on Fair Trade & Global Goals for both municipalities
    - She's currently busy with a new tourism policy + global goals projects/brainstorming
    - She will send us Tytsjerksteradiel's plan for implementation of the SDGs by email
  - HD: Communication Advisor to councillors
    - Working on Global Goals projects
    - Educating people about which SDGs relate to pre-existing projects
- What is your organization's stance (view) on SDGs?
  - TB: Tyt.'s goal is to make SDGs more visible, Achtkarspelen is just starting to recognize/adopt SDG policies/is making them visible
    - Not only the left side (politically) supports SDGs, but everyone supports them fairly equally
  - HD: drawing up overall vision in 20 years (city planning, environment, sustainability), which was recently connected internally to the Global Goals
- Does your organization already have SDG policies in place/are you working towards implementing them? What policies are being enacted, can you describe them?
  - TB: Lots of employees are doing work related to SDGs but they don't know it yet
    - Raising awareness in society, connecting to Global Goals

- What has the response of the public been to those policies so far?
  - Very little interaction
  - Local workers/entrepreneurs are more positive & supportive of global goals than policy makers are
  - They have an award for the best sustainable/global goals entrepreneur
- Are there currently any projects running similar to Ekolarium within your municipality/organization?
  - No, but they'd like to have Ekolarium (or something similar for kids) in their municipalities
- Had you heard of the project Ekolarium before today?
  - There was a questionnaire in the past (from a past group of students), but nothing since then
  - Idea: Combine Waddenzee visitors center & Ekolarium
  - Idea: Old factory in Burgum looking for new occupants (placement)
- Would you/your organization consider supporting Ekolarium (joining the coalition)? Why/why not? What would help convince you to join Ekolarium's coalition/give your support?
  - Yes, when there's a win-win situation (the local gov gets something in return)
  - Idea: Have Ekolarium be in multiple buildings, more of a virtual/informational tour of local places doing well with SDGs – maybe even travels around or is split between multiple municipalities so they all benefit from the profits, plus the more people involved the more word of mouth advertising & organic interest (+ double for when kids participate in the creation)
- What would you say to those in a municipality/organization that doesn't already support SDG projects to get them to contribute their support (time, effort, money, etc.)?
  - Time & money is limited in their organizations
  - Work pressure in some areas is very high
  - Intrinsic motivation needed!



- People see it as something extra, rather than something they're already doing – communication is a very important part of the plan
- Is there anything else about SDGs in Friesland/SDG-related projects in your municipality/organization you'd like to share?
  - They'd like to read the report once it's done
- Additional contact persons?
  - Sdg network frl
  - Entrepreneurs (for Jildou)
  - Kids (for jildou)
  - Councillors (ie. Helentje swart)
  - Herman der man: councillor sudwest frl

Interview Summary  
Ilse Kramer  
[ilse.kramer@opsterland.nl](mailto:ilse.kramer@opsterland.nl)  
Opsterland Municipality

- Which organization do you work for? / Can you tell something about the organization?
  - Ilse, working for the municipality of Opsterland
  - on the South-East of province of Friesland
  
- What is your role?
  - Supports/ assists the mayor at European affairs
  - Helping with SDGs
  - Contact person within the municipality
  - Global goal municipality since 2019
  
- What is your organization's stance (view) on SDGs?
  - Started to implement SDGs a few months ago
  - Within the organization, when making a proposal for the board, have to mention to which SDGs contributes to
  - Last Monday, for the world and environment day they organized a to promote SDGs, they handed out flower seeds to promote biodiversity and to educate children on SDGs and sustainability
  
- Does your organization already have SDG policies in place/are you working towards implementing them?
  - Want to do something with SDGs week, 25<sup>th</sup> of September
  - Global habitat day in October
  
- What policies are being enacted, can you describe them?
  - No specific policy in general, but when making new policies they have to write down how it contributes to the SDGs

- What has the response of the public been to those policies so far?
  - Many people knew about the SDGs within the organization, so it created awareness among the public
  - In the past they didn't know they were already working with SDGs but now they're more aware and easily making the connection with SDGs
  - With the community they started on Monday, there were positive reactions from the schools (students & teachers)
  
- Are there currently any projects running similar to Ekolarium within your municipality/organization?
  - Not within the municipality but within the province, SDG Netwerk Friesland
  
- Had you heard of the project Ekolarium before today?
  - If it's further developed and reaches the organizations & all the other parties are joining
  - Wants to become the first SDG province in the Netherlands, so it would be nice to be part of it
  
- Would you/your organization consider supporting Ekolarium (joining the coalition)?
  - Create awareness about the SDGs and it's a nice addition to what they do
  - Make sure to tell why SDGs are so important
  - Since it's quite international, have to make sure the application as local as possible
  - Important to make the local link
  
- What would you say to those in a municipality/organization that doesn't already support SDG projects to get them to contribute their support (time, effort, money, etc.)?
  - Doesn't necessarily have to involve money just have to make sure how the SDGs are already exist in the work

Interview Summary  
Jeannet Bijleveld  
Wetterskip Fryslan  
[jbijleveld@wetterskipfryslan.nl](mailto:jbijleveld@wetterskipfryslan.nl)

- Background:
  - Studied Architecture / city planning
- Which municipality/organization do you work for?
  - Special Planner Wetterskip Fryslan, specialized in urban areas
  - Is creative, working on innovative projects
  - Wetterskip has a tough time. They get more tasks but less money. That is why they are only focussing on main tasks, that is why there is not time to make people more aware. This is a disadvantage because this could work in the benefit of Wetterskip.
- What is your organization's stance (view) on SDGs?
  - Big part of the organization is not really thinking about SDGs, but they are focussing on SDG 6. Her colleague tries to get it more introduced in a specific part of the organization called 'Sustainable Ground and Waterworks'.
- Does your organization already have SDG policies in place/are you working towards implementing them? What policies are being enacted, can you describe them?
  - In some projects SDGs come back sometimes but there are not specific policies for SDGs.

- Would you/your organization consider supporting Ekolarium (joining the coalition)?
  - They cannot be a big partner for the Ekolarium
  - Maybe there is something they can do for Ekolarium if it has to do with their core tasks. For example, showing things of Ekolarium at their exhibitions that can be connected.
- Jeannet talked about projects they used to do abroad, but they stopped with a lot of projects because of the lack of money.
- Are there currently any projects running similar to Ekolarium within your municipality/organization?
  - Different parts:
    - Woudagemaal
    - Centre at the 'Afsluitdijk;
    - Nature museum Leeuwarden
    - Agricultural museum Leeuwarden
    - Alde Feanen; visitor centre nature (Fryske Gae)
  - Maybe there could be a connection and become an Ekolarium tour, for example. Another example, make an inventory about different subjects and make a folder for schools.
- Can you think of other organizations that could be interesting for Ekolarium to work with?
  - Green area at the Potmarge (van Hall & Wetsus are located there). This might be an interesting area to get people involved.
  - NDC-campus, Mediacampus of NHL will move to that location so there will also be new buildings. Maybe there can be made a connection.

- Additional contact persons?
  - Karin Hoogterp; pionier for 'Fries Bestuursakkoord Waterketen'
  - Immie Jonkman; Arcadia
  - Klaas-Sietse Spoelstra; Vonketon / Kening fan 'e Greide; he is good with coming from awareness to a project. Good connection for students that might do a follow-up research. <https://nij-sicht.nl/>