

Themes and issues

Effectiveness

“Do you know what works?” It becomes increasingly important to know what works, whether we talk about decentralisation of policies, locally organised informal care, social support networks, empowerment of vulnerable citizens or social safety. MOVISIE examines this question, conducts research and collects information about the applicability and effectiveness of interventions, for instance in the database Effective Social Interventions. This database helps everyone looking for solutions to social problems that have been used in practice and are well documented.

Professionalisation

A field that again and again knows how to prove its worth, calls for dedicated, but also for skilled professionals who are able to approach social problems in an effective manner. These social professionals continually have to anticipate new developments, as for instance the participation society in which people take ever more responsibility for themselves and their environment. What does this mean for professionals in their day-to-day practice? Together with professionals and policy makers MOVISIE designs quality references and professional competences, education and training programmes. We cooperate closely with professional organisations and associations, educators and trade unions.

Participation

It is not always easy for people to participate in society. A real participate society means that everyone can participate, irrespective of gender, age, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity, disability or socioeconomic status. MOVISIE contributes to a participative society in various ways. We support municipalities and volunteer organisations in their coordinating roles and provide ideas on how to activate people for whom participation is not self-evident. We present examples of good practice to help vulnerable people find work. And we draw attention to the themes of participation and emancipation of people in vulnerable positions through an annual award.

Combating domestic and sexual violence

Domestic and sexual violence present a serious threat to a safe society. Unfortunately it still happens frightfully often, at home as well as in public spaces and in institutions. Violence needs to be dealt with in such a way that support is provided to professionals and to the people involved to use their own possibilities and responsibilities. MOVISIE offers accessible, available and applicable information and knowledge about domestic and sexual violence. We stimulate cooperation between professionals in care, shelter, police, justice, victims, perpetrators, their families and their networks.

Social care

People in need of care or support have to be able to count on well organised care and support close to home. So it's important that informal caregivers, volunteers, fellow-sufferers, experiential experts and professionals in housing, welfare and care are able to cooperate closely to align their services. MOVISIE supports all parties to organise their cooperation in a good way. Point of departure are the strengths of those in need of care and their social networks. MOVISIE translates methods for cooperation between the various partners to other care settings, and together with volunteers and professionals designs ways and means to stimulate self-direction, or a method for neighbourhood assistance jointly with municipalities and welfare agencies.

Effectiveness
Professionalisation
Participation and inclusion
Domestic and sexual violence
Social care



Netherlands centre
for social development

Knowledge for a strong society

MOVISIE is the Netherlands expertise and consultancy centre for social issues. We contribute to a strong society in which people participate to the best of their abilities. To achieve this, we support, counsel and cooperate with civil society organisations, governments, corporate social entrepreneurs and citizens' initiatives.

Together we focus on coherent local social policies, we stimulate active citizenship, we organise informal care, we assist in the development of social work professionals, and we aim for a secure society without domestic or sexual violence. Connecting and disseminating knowledge are essential in our work. Knowledge which we link to science, policy and practice. In this way we contribute to the solution of social issues.

Local policies

One of society's biggest challenges nowadays is how citizens and residents can take more and more responsibility for themselves and for their environment. This calls for a different way of organising the work by municipal and local agencies. Social issues need to be approached as closely as possible to the daily reality of residents, using their own strengths as point of departure. MOVISIE supports parties in this process, in cooperation with professionals and volunteers, in civil society organisations, municipalities, ministries, enterprises and foundations. We are familiar with the networks, we bring people and institutions together, make the connections, bring experiences and expertise into the open and add knowledge in co-creation.

Social return on investment

The social sector should also be able to demonstrate its output: this is important for citizens, municipalities and agencies. What is the added value of our work? What do social interventions contribute to society as a whole? What is the best way for professionals to do their jobs? Effectiveness and professionalisation are of increasing importance to social practitioners. MOVISIE bases its work on these two pillars.

Partners and clients

As an independent organization, MOVISIE works for and cooperates with many government institutions at national, regional and local level. We manage projects geared to supporting municipalities and local institutions in their task of arranging social support for citizens. We also work with a wide range of care and welfare institutions, foundations, grass roots associations, enterprises, companies, research institutes and universities.



'MOVISIE contributes to a society in which people are empowered to full capacity.'

International cooperation

We also look across borders. Many issues in the field of social development are not restricted to the Netherlands but form part of larger European, international and global trends. MOVISIE wishes to collect knowledge from abroad, to gain international inspiration for our work and to place developments in the Netherlands in a broader international context. This both improves the quality of our work and our opportunities to support the work of others nationally and internationally.

MOVISIE values the international networks in which it participates. We find it important to share knowledge and work together. Some of the international organisations in which we are active are Eurocarers, CEV, the International Council on Social Welfare (ICSW), the European Network for Social Action (ENSACT) and the International Federation of Settlements and Neighbourhood Centres (IFS).

Family Justice Centers

MOVISIE collects good practices from abroad and studies what we can use in our own country. In the United States of America all services involved in dealing with domestic violence are located in one building: the family justice center. This approach is strongly client-oriented and facilitates contact between the various services. In 2013 we started a pilot with Family Justice Centers in five European countries.

Young homeless people

From 2008 to 2011 MOVISIE coordinated an FP7 research project into ways to fight the social exclusion of young homeless people. Together with Portugal, Czech Republic and United Kingdom we trained former young homeless people to assist in the research. Now we are learning from the UK how we can organise early intervention and shelter for young people to prevent them from becoming homeless.

Rainbow Cities network

MOVISIE coordinates the Rainbow Cities network of international cities concerned with lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) policies. The twenty European Rainbow Cities aim to exchange their experiences with LGBT policies and share their do's and don't's, so that they can learn from each other and don't have to start from scratch.

Are you interested in our work? Would you like to know more about our projects or do you want to cooperate with us? Please visit our website www.movisie.com