

Dutch Agenda Stad

Europe faces increasing urbanisation which brings both opportunities and challenges. Major urban challenges manifest themselves within a variety of societal domains, such as climate adaptation, inclusion of low-income groups, and new economic drivers. Business, local governments, civil society and universities in urban areas are anticipating on these opportunities and challenges. The Dutch national Agenda Stad focuses on the overlapping areas of economy, liveability and innovation.

Opportunities and challenges in urban areas that require collaboration between the national government, cities and other stakeholders lie at the heart of the Dutch Agenda Stad. These are often complex, radical and transitional challenges that do not fit in existing policy frames. This collaboration takes shape in City Deals. City Deals contain concrete cooperation arrangements between different levels of government, business, civil society and other stakeholders. Coalition building in

City Deals is a means to achieve the goals of the Dutch national Agenda Stad, which is to strengthen economic growth, innovation and liveability in Dutch cities. The Dutch national Agenda Stad and the Urban Agenda for the EU are in line with each other. The national agenda can be an example of an innovative way of collaboration for other European countries and cities, while at the same time Dutch cities can learn from the way other European cities deal with major urban challenges.



Economy

Urban economies are more productive, grow faster and have a greater innovative potential. Dutch cities lag behind in growth of labour productivity however. Their economic position can be strengthened by improving connections between urban regions, coordinating investment projects and increasing the complementarity between cities.



Liveability

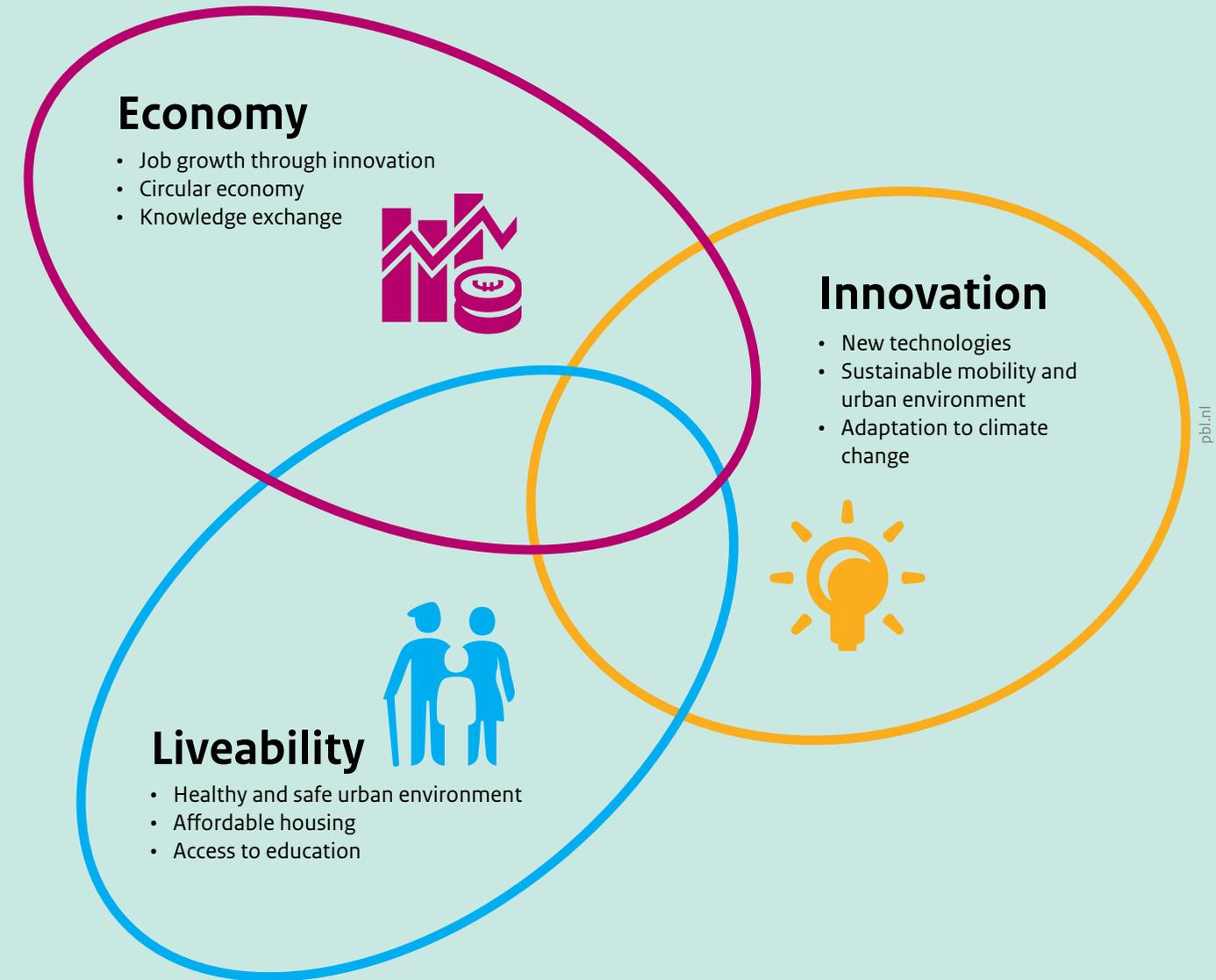
The liveability of Dutch cities has improved dramatically over the past few decades. Local problems regarding air pollution, traffic congestion, income disparities and safety still remain however. Cities can contribute to improving the liveability by investing in sustainable mobility schemes, affordable housing and quality of the public space.



Innovation

Urban regions are incubators of innovation and entrepreneurship. It is here where individuals, businesses, institutes and governments meet and profit from each others' knowledge and creativity. Smart and clean technologies are vital for sustaining economic growth over the long term. Using up resources and energy at current rates is no longer an option.

Three priority areas of the Agenda Stad



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