
Instruments / approaches in the Netherlands

for the project 'Exchanges of Practices in Education for Climate Targets' (EXPECT)

Instrument 1: The Climate agreement of the Netherlands The role of VET Education in the National Climate Agreement

Presentation: Riemer Kemper

Instrument 2: PtvT / Centres of Vocational Excellence (CoVes).

What is a Centre of Vocational Excellence?

Presentation: Boudewijn Grievink

He will demonstrate how education and companies work together on climate goals in a CoVE

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Centres of Vocational Excellence (CoVEs) bring together a wide range of local partners, such as providers of vocational education and training, employers, research centres, development agencies, and employment services (among others), to develop "skills ecosystems" that contribute to regional, economic and social development, innovation, and smart specialisation strategies.

<https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1501>

Instrument 3: The MBO Raad and the Climate agreement Taskforce People make the Transition

Presentation: André Dorée, Professor and head of the Department of Construction Management & Engineering at the University of Twente, MT-member of the Dutch 4TU Center of excellence for the Built Environment, and member of the Core Team "People make the Transition happen".

About "People make the Transition happen"

This is a cooperation between representatives from 25 Dutch organisations active in the Built Environment as: Public agencies, Ministries, trade associations, labour union, VET colleges, Universities of applied science, and universities.



Context: The Netherlands embarked on a nationwide program to get the Built Environment CO2-neutral by 2050. Trigger was the decision to eliminate fossil natural gas as main source for heating and hot tap water. Between now and 2050 about 6 million buildings need to switch to other (renewable) energy sources. Since 2019 newly build areas are mostly build without Natural Gas systems. In 2021 the Dutch Ministry wants to heat 50,000 existing buildings with other resources than natural gas. After 2021 the pace must increase to 200,000 per year to achieve the goals in the Climate Agreement and to have all homes sustainable by 2050.

Since 2016 the Utility companies, Building and HVAC contractors are struggling with shortage of equipped workers. Demographics predict this bottleneck to become worse. Inflow of new workers drops while new technologies need to be implemented, and workforce needs to be retrained as new technologies are adopted. So, to meet the ambitions of the climate agreement for the built environment, the challenge is to create/adopt new technologies, keep the retrain the workforce and increase productivity continuously. Only that way the 2050 sustainability ambitions can be met timely and affordably.

Once aware of this challenge, April 2019 a letter of intent was signed for this purpose, called “People make the transition, labor market and training” by 25 parties. A core team was formed to address the expected bottleneck in workforce. This core team wrote a strategy and plan of action. The selected approach pivots integrating the development of new technologies, working processes and skills. Regional field labs are projected. In these field labs the different levels of education system, the authorities and stakeholders from industry work together and jointly address analyses, problem solving, training and implementation of new practices for the energy transformation. This integrated approach pushes the innovation spiral as well as the learning curve upwards, as such accelerates the transformation and improves productivity. Mid 2020 the 25 participants accepted this strategy and action plan, and first budget was created by the Ministry and sectoral organisations.

Present situation

An operational team started on 1st October 2020 with 3 action lines:

- More and sustainably employable technicians and social innovation
- Optimal cooperation between stakeholders
- Product innovation

Instrument 4: Cooperation of Industry & Education in SBB: Sectoral chamber: Energy transition, circularity en climate-adaptation

Presentation: Monique Storck SBB



**Instrument 5: What does a VET school in the NL do with the Climate Agreement
(example KW1 college)**

Presentation: Rob de Vrind, Sustainability coordinator Koning Willem I College

At our college we signed the SDG charter so we pay attention to SDG 13 climate action. We try to set a good example in how we operate our buildings and facilities. We provide climate target education at our departments for building, techniques, mobility, hospitality ect but also in our techniques studio. There students in multidisciplinary teams work on tasks from society which are often related to climate action. This by using the ICE-model and with attention to creativity, entrepreneurship, innovative techniques and ICT. We are building new facilities and we are inspired by the sustainability factory in Dordrecht. The presentation shows why. Also some attention to how we work together with other institutes and companies.

