



## FORM BEST PRACTICES CONTEST

Municipality Echt-Susteren Country The Netherlands

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Name project

**Living room + in Echt-Susteren**

Category Certification Criteria: mark the category of your project

- Energy and environmental policies (politiche energetiche e ambientali);
- Infrastructure policies (politiche infrastrutturali);
- Quality of urban life policies (politiche per la qualita' urbana);
- Agricultural, touristic and artisan policies (politiche agricole, turistiche, artigianali);
- Policies for hospitality, awareness and training (politiche per l'ospitalita, la consapevolezza e la formazione);
- Social cohesion (coesione sociale).

Summary project

The local government aims at realizing qualitative day care in the different villages and cities, close to the citizens. The so called Living room + projects. People can make use of day care close by, with people they know, without the need to travel to facilities far away. The facilities are partly run by volunteers, supported by our welfare organization Menswel.

Goal project



The local government in the Netherlands is more and more responsible for providing livable surroundings for their citizens. We want citizens to live as long as possible in their own home, supported by family, friends and neighbors. To achieve this, the government aims at realizing qualitative day care in the different villages and cities, close to the citizens. People prefer their day care close by, so they stay in their own community, with the people they know, and don't need to travel. It puts a stop to people feeling lonely in their home. They meet with neighbors, exchange memories and just enjoy the company. It also prevents the government from arranging expensive transportation to the day care facilities. Citizens feel more part of their community, despite their disabilities, and hopefully live longer in their own home, without needing expensive care.

#### Result project

The living room projects are realized in several villages in Echt-Susteren. It ensures customized care in an approachable way. The facilities are partly run by volunteers, so it reduces the burden on our caregivers. The government can reduce costs, because less expensive care is needed, without offering less quality of the day care possibilities. It's realized on a small scale, so it can adapt easy to the demands of the citizens. It supports the quality of life of our citizens, who need in some way caring for. The clients can go to the projects to meet others, have a meal together, play cards or take part in any of the other activities. More and more people are therefore making use of the projects.

#### Finance (costs and benefits)

The living room projects on location cost € 18 per daypart of 4 hours. Much less, compared to the old intramural facilities, which cost between € 37 and € 66 daypart of 4 hours. The projects provide even better quality of day care, because the accompaniment of the clients is more intense and adjusted more to the needs of the clients. Costs can also be reduced because volunteers help with the activities set up during the day care (still being supported by professionals).

#### Staff (staff involved and use of time)

The projects are realized with a professional supervisor, supported by several volunteers. The projects are also supported by the local government and the welfare organization Menswel (civil servants appointed for a couple of hours per week).

Link website [www.menswel.nl/welzijn/ontmoeting/huiskamers/](http://www.menswel.nl/welzijn/ontmoeting/huiskamers/) & [www.menswel.nl/welzijn/ontmoeting/huiskamer-plus/](http://www.menswel.nl/welzijn/ontmoeting/huiskamer-plus/)

Impression of the **living room** + projects in Echt-Susteren

