

The story of 12 years practicing health knowledge and policy in a Dutch city

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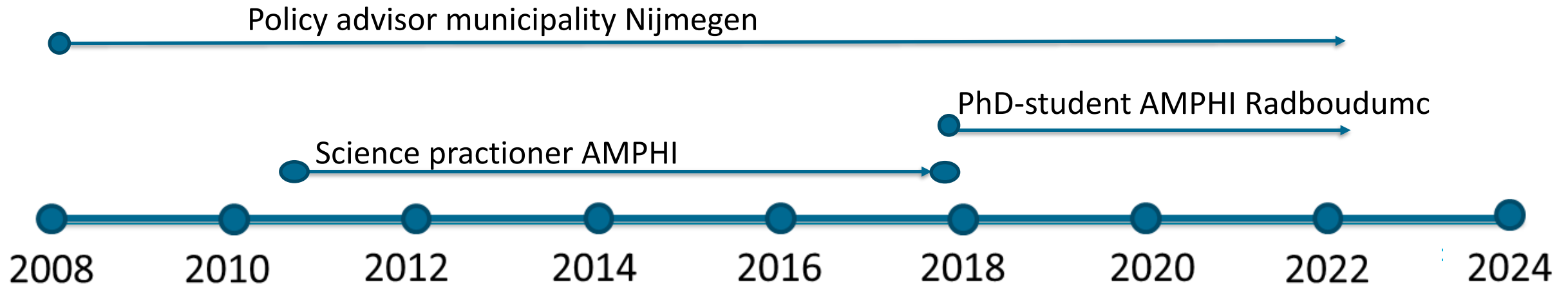
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Content of the presentation

- Introduction
- Theory and practice
- 4 practical experiences in 12 years
 - Policy through the years
 - Collaboration and building networks
 - Healthy living environment
 - The movement: Green, healthy and on the move
- PHD research
- Personal conclusion

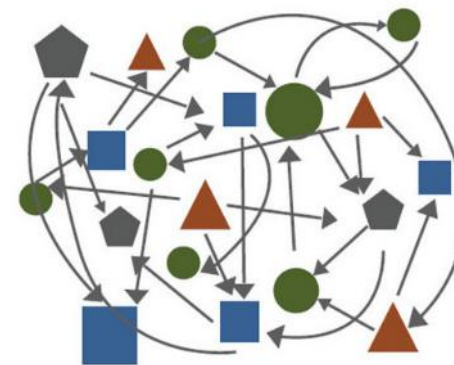
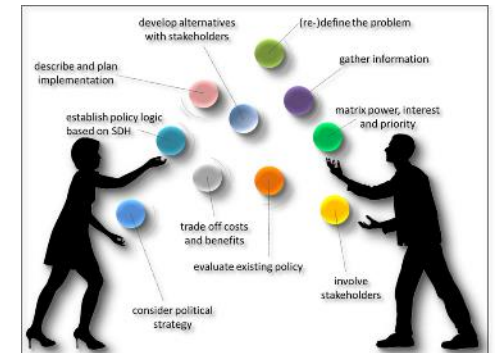


Introduction



Theory and practice

- Theory: Health in all policies
 - Purpose of health promotion and protection
 - Collaboration with other sectors
 - Multiple determinants at once
 - Including health in vision and policy
 - Joint activities
 - Structural embedded
- Practice:
 - 12 years as policy advisor and policy broker



Experience 1: Policy through the years

- Succes
 - High degree of continuity
 - Fixed group of partners
 - Increasingly broader and robust policy
 - Unanimously decision by council of the city!!!
- Setback
 - Alderman with no ambitions or one focus
- Learned
 - Be patient and hold on to course
 - It takes time to improve



Samen gezond in Nijmegen

Gezondheidsagenda 2017-2020



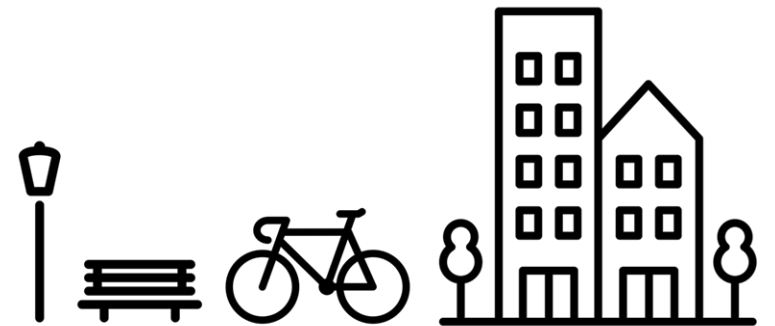
Experience 2: Collaboration and building networks

- Success
 - Same policy advisor on health policy
 - More colleagues working on health
 - Expanding policy areas and organisations
- Setback
 - Change of persons had influences on continuity
 - Collaboration within one organization is not self-evident either
- Learned
 - Integrated policy does not automatically lead to integrated collaboration
 - Time and capacity required for boundary spanners.
 - Every network wants its own identity



Experience 3: Healthy living environment

- Start role as boundary spanner
- Start PhD research “Including health in spatial planning”
- Success
 - Broader group within the social department engaged in spatial development
 - More attention to health, for example in the environmental vision
 - Concrete results in new building location
- Setback
 - COVID19 and working from home
 - Priorities on other developments and limited capacity
 - No changes to structures and processes
- Learned
 - Be happy with small improvements



Experience 4: Green, healthy and on the move

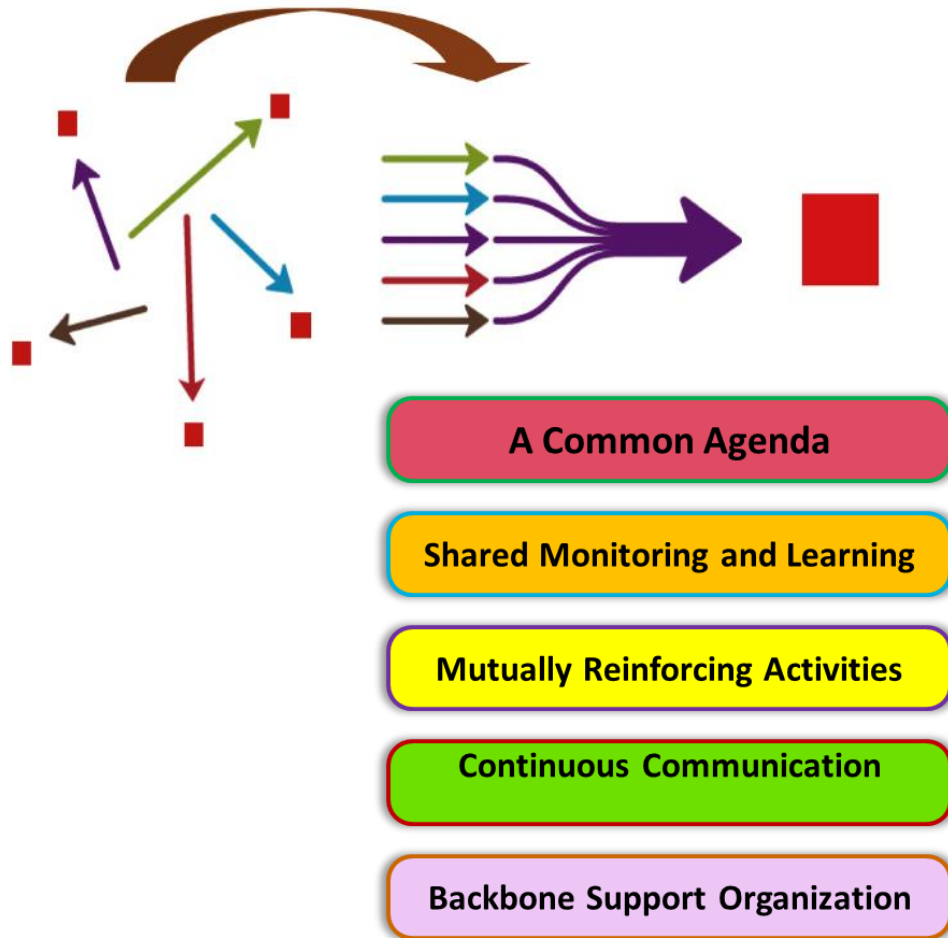
Why?

- In 10 years more healthy citizens in Nijmegen (>2017)
- Healthy lifestyle and healthy environment
- Healthy choice must be the easiest choice

Who ?



Experience 4: Challenge : realize collective impact



Connect:

- initiatives
- strategic, tactical & operational level
- different stakeholders
- social & physical



Experience 4: Green, healthy and on the move



Smoke free generation



Physical activity



Healthy nutrition



Responsible alcohol use



Mental well-being



Healthy environment



Vitality at work



Infrastructure for prevention



Monitoring



Experience 4: Green, healthy and on the move

- Succes
 - 10 years, longer than election periods
 - Strategic level and large organizations provide more attention and pressure
 - Broadening with many different organizations
 - Including monitor and evaluation
 - Example for other municipalities
- “Setback”
 - Takes a lot of time
 - Continuous process of how to organize it
 - Connecting strategic and operational
- Learned
 - Signing is not enough, give substance to the follow-up
 - Ensuring more connection between partners



wij zijn
groen, gezond
en in beweging
Nijmegen



Phd-Research: Including Health in Spatial planning

- How are municipalities working on a healthy living environment?
- Visiting 6 municipalities (incl Nijmegen)
- Findings
 - Increase in attention health in spatial planning
 - Improvements possible in integrated working and integrated decision-making
 - Wish to collaborate more, but lack of time and obstacles in process and organizational structure
 - Searching in content and process



Personal conclusion

- Health in all policies



Health in all policies in practice spatial planning

Elements come back in practice

- Importance of integrated policy
- Importance of collaboration
- Having budget
- Insight into which sectors can contribute

Elements come partly back but insufficiently

- Broad and shared vision
- More interaction between sectors
- Having key figures to connect social and urban
- Continuous improvement of integral processed and results

Elements are missing

- Political and administrative embedded
 - Concrete collaboration agreements
 - Clear implementation strategy
 - View of results.
-

Personal conclusion

- Health in all policies
- Key points for the work of a policy advisor and health policy
 - Continuity in persons
 - Form a group around you
 - Be patience
 - Grab opportunities
 - Build the knowledge and experience together
 - Step by step
 - Look back and see where you come from



**Thank you
for your attention**

