

# **An inclusive society for people with dementia; Showcasing initial steps from an EU-Healthy Ageing region in The Netherlands**

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**Well Ageing Society Summit, October 2020**



# Harmony & Quadruple Helix Collaboration

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Healthy Ageing Network

Northern Netherlands  
Region of Knowledge and Development

MADE POSSIBLE BY



provincie  
groningen

provincie fryslân  
provincie fryslân

provincie Drenthe



European Innovation  
Partnership on Active  
and Healthy Ageing

REFERENCE SITE



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# The perspective from academia: basic and applied research into dementia



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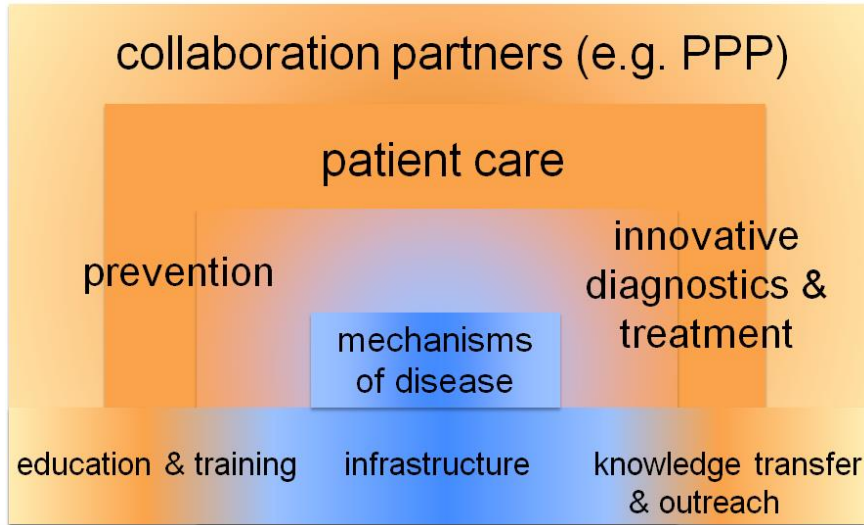


# University Medical Center Groningen

*-Top 100 in all major university rankings*

*-Core theme: Healthy Ageing*

*-Research strategy:*



## Key Assets



*Fundamental Science for  
the Biology of Ageing*

[eriba.umcg.nl](http://eriba.umcg.nl)



*Research, Education &  
Innovation for Public Health*

[www.rug.nl/aletta](http://www.rug.nl/aletta)



[www.lifelines.nl](http://www.lifelines.nl)

*Large scale population based cohort study and  
biobank with data and biologic sample collection  
from 167.000 Participants for 30 Years*



**umcg**

# Innovation and Dementia

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As people with dementia progress to later stages of the disease their need for support increases whereas their ability to adopt change gradually decreases to an absolute zero

We have state of the art:

- Applications of AI, ML, Big data
- 'Smart' living environments
- Robotics and domotics

We need:

- Excellence in implementation / social innovation
  - Tap into preserved abilities / senses
  - Create adaptive living and care environments



# 'Groninger Zorgakkoord' (regional care covenant)

- Public private partnership for the transition from 20 'old' to 9 new state of the art care facilities
- Inside society, not outside
- Professional organization to support individual care providers to create the right facilities
- €330m investment



# Considerations include:

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- Buildings are earthquake proof (a shared regional challenge)
- Mixed groups of residents creating synergies
- Buildings are small scaled and integrated in the environment
- Buildings should be circular, green and adaptive to change
- Smart living and caring technologies are seamlessly integrated
- The built environment and its societal functions are reciprocal for both the region and the care facilities
- Long term sustainability of care is essential





# At institutional level

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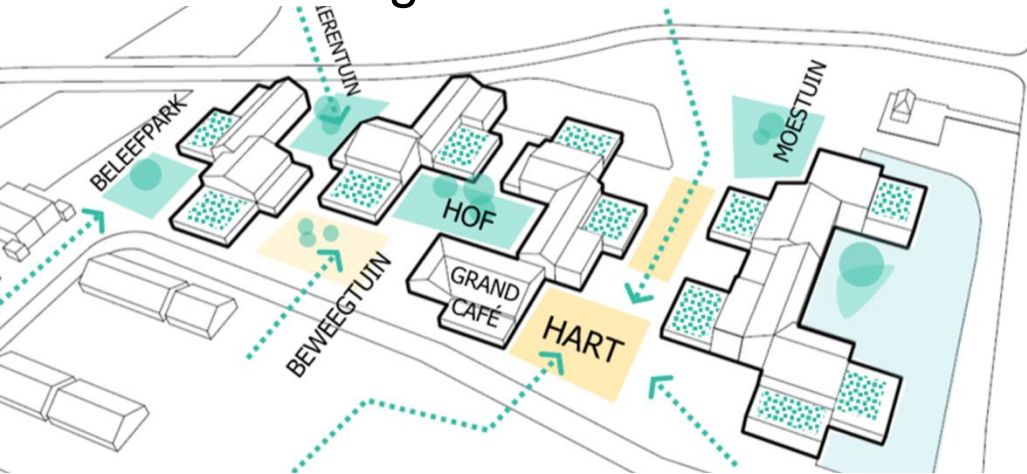
- Harmony in the built environment
- Smart design and smart solutions



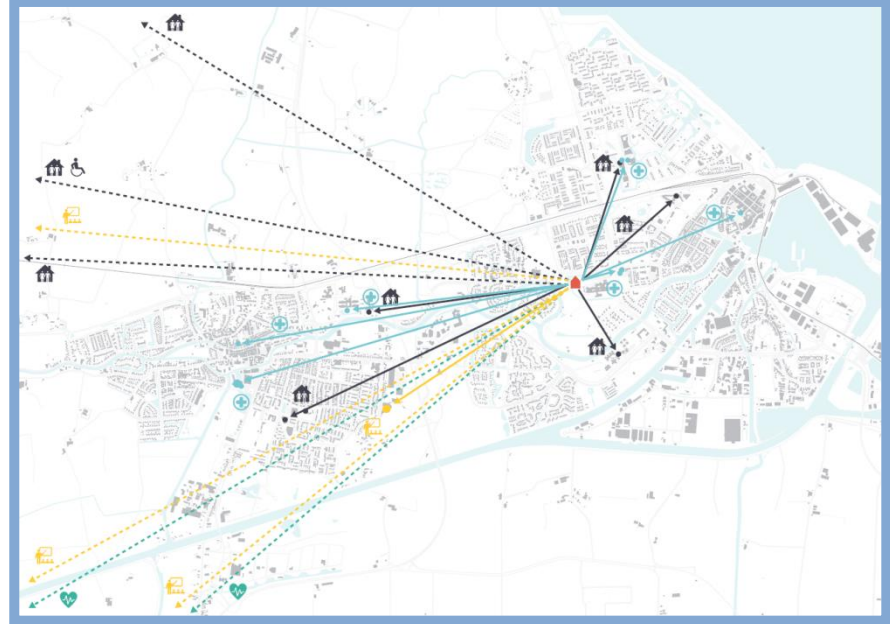
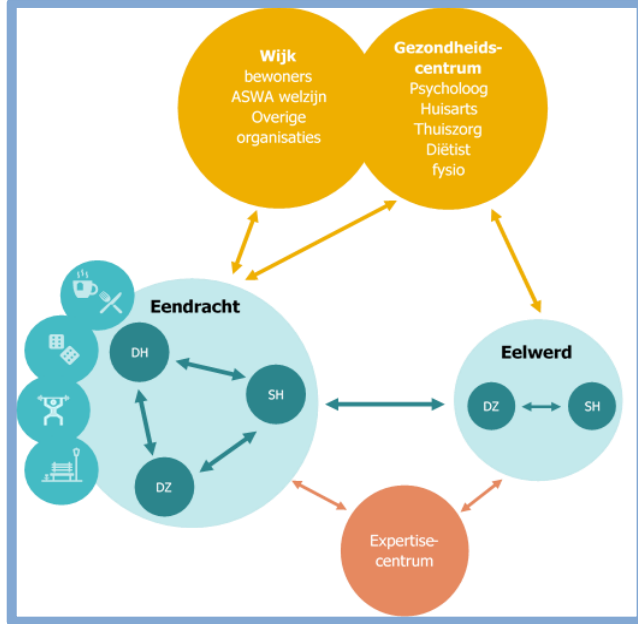


# ‘Eendracht’ (和)

- Repurposing from industrial site to residential area
- Build first, move later
- Smart design and smart solutions



# Sustainability and integration



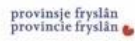
# European societal collaborations



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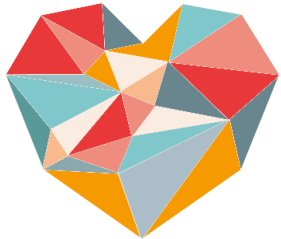


*provincie Drenthe*



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Dementia  
in Cultural Mediation



**EDEN - Embracing DEMeNtia**

# In conclusion...

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- A dementia friendly society needs collaborations of multiple stakeholders
- The core must be Harmony, 和
- As UMCG we seek collaborative research partners to further develop scientific knowledge on the road towards effectively treating, preventing and ultimately ending dementia
- We invite anyone to (digitally) visit our region and learn from our examples and teach us about their solutions





# Acknowledgements

- Eric van Kooij, Paul Zwetsloot, Yuko Kikuta, Mihoko Ishii of the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
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- Several inspiring researchers at UMCG
- My grandmother who suffered from late stage dementia for far too long

