

Tilburg

Policy

The municipality of Tilburg joined the network of Municipalities for Global Goals (Gemeenten4GlobalGoals) campaign in 2016. The following year, the municipality began to incorporate the sustainable development goals into its program budget for 2018 in which the municipality mainly focused on what is important to and in Tilburg through the lens of 'think global, act local'. Tilburg has chosen to focus on energy transition, circular economy and climate adaptation. The new policy has adopted the Global Goals, inspired by four dimensions within the goals: inclusive social development, inclusive economic development, a sustainable environment and peace and safety.

Tilburg sees itself as a municipality that has always had a strong social profile. The city has a large network of individuals and organisations of different backgrounds that are involved in global awareness raising, amongst which NGOs, entrepreneurs and education, but also citizens. Many of them meet through the platform 'Een wereld te winnen' (a world to win). New cooperation and ideas develop through the platform. The platform is driven bottom-up, which ensures that the content fits what is important to Tilburg. The municipality calls it 'the basis in the city for awareness of the sustainable development goals'.

The Platform – A World to Win

The municipality of Tilburg has a subsidy arrangement 'Een wereld te winnen 2016-2020' through which the municipality wants to support projects and programmes in Tilburg. This arrangement is mainly organised by the platform of citizens that carries the same name. Tilburg wants to contribute to realization of the Global Goals through the projects that are supported by the platform. In 2017, the platform had over 200 members who regularly visited the pitch-assemblies of 'Een wereld te winnen'.

How does it work?

Initiatives deriving from projects in Tilburg that would like to be considered for a subsidy for their work pitch their plans at platform assemblies. These assemblies take place at least twice every year. The municipality organizes a pitch night where local programs and projects can pitch their ideas.

The commission behind the platform judges the pitches that are presented. This happens in the form of a public, argumentative, short advice to the bench of mayor and aldermen. In addition, members of the platform can vote during the assemblies and provide tips regarding the projects. One of the criteria for being appointed a subsidy is that the project or program contributes to the realization of the Global Goals. Because Tilburg still has quite a substantial budget for these sorts of projects, many initiatives can still be supported.

Since the 1st of July 2016, twenty project pitches have been honoured, and five large program proposals have been approved that will last until July 2019. The subsidies for projects are €15000 and for programs between €15.000 and €40.000. The expectation holds that until march 2020, there still is space for several project proposals to be accepted.

Vision for the future

The municipality of Tilburg uses this project to bring the sustainable development goals close to her inhabitants. By letting them participate in the municipal project, the world-wide dimension of the project receives support locally. The coming time, the municipality of Tilburg will cooperate with the platform in different ways, in order to renew and broaden its concept.. A factor of this platform 2.0 will be that the local projects and programs of Tilburg will be to support local governance abroad. By enacting this within the framework of the Global Goals, the municipality supports VNG International's Municipalities4GlobalGoals campaign.