



The Locus fieldtrip in Amsterdam was held on a sunny Wednesday, 2nd of April.

All partners started at Pluspunt, a community centre in the heart of Nieuw West. It has several facilities for residents and a social professional from our field partner guided us through the warm and inviting building. In Amsterdam, kindergartens are quite expensive- we came to understand, and the community centers thus play an important role assisting child-care in the form of diverse activities.

From there we walked to a grassroots community centre 't eilandje in Geuzenveld; a small scale centre, run by social professionals with residents, offering a variety of activities. One of them is community gardening. We were invited to join and plant some seeds for the future.



After that we took the bike, a real Dutch tradition, through the neighborhood and to community centre De Honingraat. Nieuw-West is a large city district with different areas. Each with its own community centre. In the Honingraat a volunteer gave the group a tour.





We had a walk from there through The Van Deyssel neighborhood. A lot of urban renovation is happening here. We met an inspiring resident and social creative professional from Cascoland a foundation funded by social base, creative funding, green subsidies. The foundation is led by professionals and volunteers. Renovations also impact the social structure of neighbourhoods. In Casco land residents garden, cook and perform creative activities together.



A group of approximately ten people are seated around a long wooden table in a bright, modern room. They appear to be engaged in a discussion or meeting. The room features large windows, a clock on the wall, and a display case in the background. The atmosphere is collaborative and professional.

After lunch we cycled again to another part of Nieuw west, the neighborhoods Sloten, Nieuw Sloten and Park Haagseweg. Here we visited community Centre België. A volunteer gave us a lecture about the history of this area. We had a walk through Nieuw Sloten. Amongst other things we learned here from a community builder the importance of being able to analyze structures in neighborhoods and networking.