



Interested in participating in or co-operating with Stedenlink?

Stichting Stedenlink invites municipalities and provinces to join its knowledge network. Visit our website, subscribe to the newsletter or join the Linked-In Open Net Works Group.

We are also interested in working with other organisations. Everyone is welcome to subscribe to Stedenlink's newsletters via the website.

Much more information and an introductory film can be found at www.stedenlink.nl

Stedenlink's partners



Colophon

Projectbureau Stedenlink

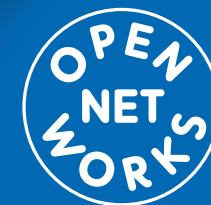
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Stedenlink

the network of knowledge cities





Digital highways

In the Netherlands we have gone online en masse. It would appear that the Netherlands has taken on the role as leader in the Information Society. This is reflected in the large number of broadband connections per head of the population. But what actually is broadband? We make use of only a few truly innovative broadband services, in the public sector for instance. A major obstacle is the lack of scale. This is because the digital infrastructure still has its shortcomings.

We need digital 'highways': Next Generation Open Access Networks. The basis for such a network is a fibre optic network. Fibre optic cables are durable, superfast and future-proof. Stichting Stedenlink is a network of municipalities and provinces that seeks to promote the roll out and deployment of fibre optic networks.

The Information Society needs Open Fibre Optic Networks

Fibre optic has unlimited potential in every policy sector. For instance fibre can be used in the field of safety, in the care sector, in the education sector and in the creative industry. But it also opens up numerous opportunities for economic development, e-government and social cohesion.

Thus, Stedenlink promotes urban regeneration and economic development strategies and the development of useful (business) models for broadband services beyond the plans of major telcos.



Stichting Stedenlink

Stedenlink is a network of twelve municipalities and two provinces. Stedenlink combines forces to realise local innovations. To achieve this, optimum use must be made of ICT in the community. This is why 'next generation' open access fibre optic networks and broadband services, which have not yet really got off the ground, are essential.

The following cities are members of Stedenlink: Amersfoort, Amsterdam, Arnhem, The Hague, Deventer, Eindhoven, Enschede, Helmond, Leeuwarden, Rotterdam, Tilburg and Zoetermeer. The provinces of Gelderland and Overijssel are also members of Stedenlink.

Stedenlink's mission

To promote the optimum availability and use of broadband facilities for socio-economic purposes, so that the (knowledge) economy is able to flourish and the information society is able to provide welfare for all.

Stedenlink has two creeds: Open Networks and Open Innovation. Open Networks are the limitless interlinked fibre optic networks that combine to form a single large network. The roll out of these and the openness of them is urgently required. Open Innovation stands for innovation through the sharing of knowledge and innovative services, across borders of separate organizations. Especially within the public sector, where generic challenges often have to be tackled at a local scale, this is a must; reinventing the wheel is too costly for society.



Organisation

Stichting Stedenlink was founded in 2001. Stedenlink is managed by members of the City Board at the participating municipalities. Daily matters are managed by a project office. The aim is to publicise the value ICT has for urban, national and European processes, with an eye to the interests of local and regional government institutions. A professional core group works on concrete projects with varying themes, assisted by the project office and within consortia with the relevant partners.

Stedenlink teams up with other organizations that promote optimum use of ICT, and with organizations that serve the interest of local and regional development. For the latter, at a national level Stedenlink co-operates with the Dutch United Municipalities (Vereniging Nederlandse Gemeenten) and Provinces (Interprovinciaal Overleg). At the international level Stedenlink co-operates with Eurocities (Knowledge Society Forum) and INEC (International Network of E-Communities).

