

Widen Your View with SKETCH ‘n MATCH

Empowering Participatory Planning in Rural and Spatial Development

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SUMMARY

Empowering participatory planning in land development

widen your view by SKETCH ‘n MATCH

The emergence of Sketch ‘n Match

Sketch and Match has been developed by the former Dutch Dienst Landelijk Gebied (Governmental Service for land and water management). It is an innovative and proven method in participative decision making in environmental planning. It is a response to a changing society in which plans are no longer made from top down but rather from behind the desk. People want to influence their own environment and work with stakeholders on site to resolve issues. In addition, experience shows that sector achieving solutions often capsizes when an integrated and participatory approach is lacking. The sketch and match approach addresses this need and also helps to speed up the planning process.

Empower your planning by mobilizing local energy

Despite cultural differences, despite other planning processes, despite the language gap, the Sketch ‘n Match method of Kadaster has proven that people can make a difference in every country and in every area.

The best way to realise plans is to mobilize local energy. In the Dutch practice it became clear that the best way to do that, is to involve people on an active way in an early stage in planning. Not by discussing about an already developed

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. Studies often had a weak basis regarding common interest. Meetings about results rarely brought participants together. It was just about consulting people before and after the planning, only creating passive support from the public. From the design table and back there were long discussions, long processes and lots of meetings. And last but not least, resulting in long and dull reports. This led to a gap between plan and realisation.

The Sketch 'n Match method is about making plans with and by the people. Concerned parties make the plan together. Experts and landscape architects just have a supporting role. Discussions are creative. Always 'yes and' instead of 'no, but'. The meeting table becomes the drawing table. This results have a full use of local knowledge, full scope on local urgencies and are created from a positive synergy from the start. The local energy is mobilised.

Images are the key

The Sketch 'n Match method is all about images. One image will tell you more than a thousand words. Images can tell stories and they stimulate the creative process. They make planning fun and creative. The Sketch 'n Match method is about specifically defining what everybody means and wants together by drawing it.

Sketch 'n Match benefits

The method gives better commitment and understanding between all parties involved, from different governmental bodies to the smallest local farmer, by working together. It is mobilising energy and is much more faster than any other method. It is therefore very efficient. It gives a broader view on solutions, even new solutions or innovative solutions. Every idea is a good idea.

Invitation to collaboration

Who wants to join us and gain experience in Sketch 'n Match in a practical case of land development?

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