University of Groningen

Novel forms of governance with high levels of civic self-reliance

Ubels, Hiska

DOI:
[10.33612/diss.111587565](https://doi.org/10.33612/diss.111587565)

IMPORTANT NOTE: You are advised to consult the publisher's version (publisher's PDF) if you wish to cite from it. Please check the document version below.

Document Version
Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

Publication date:
2020

[Link to publication in University of Groningen/UMCG research database](#)

Citation for published version (APA):

Ubels, H. (2020). *Novel forms of governance with high levels of civic self-reliance*. [Thesis fully internal (DIV), University of Groningen]. University of Groningen. <https://doi.org/10.33612/diss.111587565>

Copyright

Other than for strictly personal use, it is not permitted to download or to forward/distribute the text or part of it without the consent of the author(s) and/or copyright holder(s), unless the work is under an open content license (like Creative Commons).

The publication may also be distributed here under the terms of Article 25fa of the Dutch Copyright Act, indicated by the "Taverne" license. More information can be found on the University of Groningen website: <https://www.rug.nl/library/open-access/self-archiving-pure/taverne-amendment>.

Take-down policy

If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us providing details, and we will remove access to the work immediately and investigate your claim.

Downloaded from the University of Groningen/UMCG research database (Pure): <http://www.rug.nl/research/portal>. For technical reasons the number of authors shown on this cover page is limited to 10 maximum.

Novel forms of governance with high levels of civic self-reliance

Hiska Ubels

This research was conducted at the Faculty of Spatial Sciences of the University of Groningen, The Netherlands.

ISBN 978-94-034-2082-0

ISBN (E-publication) 978-94-034-2081-3

Cover design Jaïke Hellinga and Mabel Ubels

Printing GVO Drukkers en Vormgevers

English language editing Language Centre of the University of Groningen

© H. Ubels, 2020.

All rights reserved. Save exceptions stated by law, no part of this publication may be reproduced in any form, by print, photocopying, or otherwise, without the prior written permission from the author.

university of
 groningen

Novel forms of governance with high levels of civic self-reliance

PhD thesis

to obtain the degree of PhD at the
University of Groningen
on the authority of the
Rector Magnificus Prof. C. Wijmenga
and in accordance with
the decision by the College of Deans.

This thesis will be defended in public on

Thursday 30 January 2020 at 14.30 hours

by

Hiska Ubels

born on 15 June 1970
in Bedum

Supervisors

Prof. B.B. Bock
Prof. T. Haartsen

Assessment Committee

Prof. L.G. Horlings
Prof. G.J. Hospers
Prof. H. Ernste

‘Wie is hier de baas?’

vroeg ik

Ze zeiden:

‘Het volk natuurlijk’

Ik zei:

‘Natuurlijk het volk

maar wie

is er werkelijk de baas?’

Erich Fried (1921-1988)¹

¹ vertaald door Hans W. Bakx

Table of contents

1.	Introduction	9
2.	An evolutionary perspective on experimental local governance arrangements with local governments and residents in Dutch rural areas of depopulation	27
3.	The dynamics of self-governance capacity: the Dutch rural civic initiative 'Project Ulrum 2034'	55
4.	Social innovation and community-focussed civic initiatives in the context of rural depopulation: for everybody by everybody? Project Ulrum 2034	87
5.	Non-engagement of mid-aged and elderly residents in rural civic initiatives	121
6.	Conclusion	149
Appendix A: Enquête 'Burgerinitiatieven in gebieden met bevolkingskrimp: <i>Project Ulrum 2034</i> '		165
Appendix B: Vragen voor het panel van het Fries Sociaal Planbureau oktober 2018		171
Summary in Dutch/Nederlandstalige samenvatting		173

Chapter 2-5 of this PhD dissertation are reprinted from the following publications and manuscripts:

Chapter 2 (with some minor adjustments)

Ubels, H., Bock, B.B. and Haartsen, T. (2019). An evolutionary perspective on experimental local governance arrangements with local governments and residents in Dutch rural areas of depopulation. *Environment and Planning C: Politics and Space*, 37, 1277-1295.

Chapter 3 (with some minor adjustments)

Ubels, H., Bock, B.B. and Haartsen, T. (2019). The dynamics of self-governance capacity: the Dutch rural civic initiative 'Project Ulrum 2034'. *Sociologia Ruralis*, 59 (4), 763-788.

Chapter 4 (with some minor adjustments)

Ubels, H., Haartsen, T. and Bock, B.B. (2019). Social innovation and community-focussed civic initiatives in the context of rural depopulation: for everybody by everybody? Project Ulrum 2034. *Journal of Rural Studies*, 00 (00), 1-11.

Chapter 5

Ubels, H. Bock, B.B. and Haartsen, T. (2019). Non-engagement of mid-aged and elderly residents in rural civic initiatives. *Under revision at an international journal*