

European Crime Prevention Award (ECPA)

Annex I

Approved by the EUCPN Management Board in 2018

Please complete the template in English in compliance with the ECPA criteria contained in the Rules and procedures for awarding and presenting the European Crime Prevention Award (Par.2 §3).

General information

1. Please specify your country.

The Netherlands

2. Is this your country's ECPA entry or an additional project?

ECPA entry

3. What is the title of the project?

Buurtpreventie (Neighbourhood Prevention) Breda

4. Who is responsible for the project? Contact details.

Gemeente Breda

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Nederland

Contact person:

Chris Aarts (project coordinator)

Buurtpreventie Breda

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5. Start date of the project (dd/mm/yyyy)? Is the project still running (Yes/No)? If not, please provide the end date of the project.

Start date 01-01-2010; project is still running

6. Where can we find more information about the project? Please provide links to the project's website or online reports or publications (preferably in English).

You can find our project on the internet:

- www.buurtpreventiebreda.nl
- Facebook: Buurtpreventie Breda
- Twitter : @BredaBuurtP

7. Please give a **one page** description of the project (**Max. 600 words**)

Buurtpreventie Breda is a cooperative in which residents, the police and the municipality work together to increase safety and quality of life in the municipality of Breda. Residents activate or facilitate transfer of information, knowledge and other activities in the area of the neighborhood to increase safety and quality of life themselves, using an app group or during meetings which certain residents attend. In this cooperative, residents, police and the municipality are on an equal footing. Together they are responsible for the implementation and policy of Buurtpreventie Breda. Directing in this case is the "Buurtpreventie Breda control group". This control group is represented by residents, the police and the municipality. Together they capture this cooperative in a Collaboration Agreement, which is confirmed every four years.

At Buurtpreventie Breda residents are the experts in the field of safety in their street. They know best what is happening in their neighborhood and often know the solutions to the problem. At first, the residents themselves figure out how to solve the problems and when necessary the municipality and/or police is called in. The municipality is therefore facilitating the safe keeping of its own living environment.

Buurtpreventie Breda is primarily focused on tackling the so called High Impact Crimes (home burglaries or robberies and street robberies). But the focus changes with changes in crime development. An increase in car burglary for example leads to more awareness and action on this theme.

The way it works is that the residents themselves are responsible for their own safety and are addressed to by both residents and the government. The basic principle is that everyone takes care of good quality hinges and locks of their houses and also uses it accordingly. In addition, we ask them to be alert on suspicious situations and we strive to increase social cohesion and contact between the residents in the neighborhood. This intensifies and strengthens contact between residents and improves safety and perception of safety. Residents train each other through workshops in recognizing suspicious situations and how to deal with them. This creates awareness and provides a clear action perspective.

I. The project shall focus on prevention and/or reduction of everyday crime and fear of crime within the theme.

8. How does the project contribute to crime prevention and/or the reduction of crime or the fear of crime? Does it focus on raising citizens' awareness or does it apply other mechanisms? **(Max. 200 words)**

We work with the IAA principle (in Dutch IBH). It stands for Inform, Awareness and Action perspective.

- I. Inform: by providing information about present safety incidents, residents are informed about the current state of business in safety in their neighbourhood.
- II. Awareness: through informing, residents become more aware what crimes are currently happening in their neighbourhood.
- III. Action Perspective: further, it is specified what measures residents can take not to become a victim. It gives residents a so called action perspective.

When problems become structural, residents, police and the municipality join together in conversation to decide what needs to be done. Residents act as safety expert in their neighbourhood. Their input is leading in deciding about measures.

II. The project shall have been evaluated and have achieved most or all of its objectives.¹

9. What were the reasons for setting up the project? Was this context analysed before the project was initiated and in what way (How, and by whom? Which data were used?)? In what way did this analysis inform the set-up of the project? **(Max. 150 words)**

The reason why this project was started, was that the municipality of Breda was scoring very high on the national list of home burglaries. It was in the top 3 cities in the Netherlands with the highest home burglaries count (source: Statline, Statistics Netherlands (CBS)). Home burglaries have a big impact. Not only material things get stolen, but it also has a very big impact on residents' perception of safety.

¹ For more information on evaluation, see Guidelines on the evaluation of crime prevention initiatives (EUCPN Toolbox No.3): <http://www.eucpn.org/library/results.asp?category=32&pubdate>

10. What were the objective(s) of the project? Please, if applicable, distinguish between main and secondary objectives. **(Max. 150 words)**

Main goal:

- to include and motivate residents in improving safety and experience thereof in their own living environment.

Sub goals:

- to reduce amount of home burglaries and other forms of traditional types of crime
- to improve perception of safety in neighbourhoods of Breda
- to follow trends in crime development on a local level
- to create trust between residents and the government.

11. Has there been a process evaluation? Who conducted the evaluation (internally or externally?) and what were the main results? Which indicators were used to measure the process? Did you make changes accordingly? **(max. 300 words)** - *for more information on process evaluation, see EUCPN Toolbox No.3, p.9-10 & part 2 - section 2A*

There has not been an official process evaluation. But the project is being evaluated continuously by the control group. In recent years, residents of Breda have been explicitly involved in the (further) development of Buurtpreventie Breda: as a street contact person they are members of a neighborhood prevention, Flat Alert or WhatsApp group. They train their fellow street contacts on various subjects. The control group of Buurtpreventie Breda is composed of 4 residents and 2 employees of the police and municipality who support the urban coordinator in the further qualitative development of Buurtpreventie Breda. They drafted the 2015-2018 Buurtpreventie Cooperation Agreement in 2015 on the occasion of the 5-year existence, which is signed by the police chief of the Baronie district, the mayor of Breda, and the Control Group.

The Control group is also the director of the document 'Breda citizens: Partners in Security 2018-2022'. In this way residents of Breda give their own content to the way in which they want to keep their neighborhood or village safe and they are prepared to invest a part of their free time in it. In the meantime, 86 neighborhood prevention, Flat Alert and Whatsapp groups have already been connected with 3.300 street contact persons and more than 18.000 addresses.

All the above is reason enough for the municipality of Breda to extend the project. There will be a shift in focus the coming years. While the number of home burglaries declined the past years, there has been an increase on cyber related crimes against citizens. For the coming years Buurtpreventie Breda will focus more and more on this topic, using the same approach and methods.

12. Has there been an outcome or impact evaluation? Who conducted the evaluation (internally or externally?), which data and evaluation method were used and what were the main results? Which indicators were used to measure the impact? (**Max. 300 words**) - *for more information on outcome or impact evaluation, see EUCPN Toolbox No.3, p.7-9 & part 2 - section 2A*

Buurtpreventie Breda has never been officially evaluated since it started. But there has been a drastic reduction of home burglaries.

The number of home burglaries since 2012 (the year with the most home burglaries in recent years) has reduced by more than half from 1,430 in 2012 to 635 burglaries at the end of 2016, not least because of the involvement of the residents involved.

The number of home burglaries in the first 5 months of 2017 in Breda increased again: from 256 burglaries from January to the end of June 2016 to 356 burglaries in the same period in 2017. Striking is the fact that the percentage of burglaries in Buurtpreventie areas in 2017, compared to neighborhoods where no Buurtpreventie is active, has remained low: over 18% of the total number of reported home burglaries. In 2016 this was still 20% (source: DRIO / DIK-police de Baronie, 2016/2017).

Home burglaries in Breda:

2010: 1.075

2011: 1.175

2012: 1.430

2013: 1.390

2014: 970

2015: 795

2016: 635

2017: 650

Source: Statline, Statistics Netherlands (CBS)

<http://statline.cbs.nl/Statweb/publication/?DM=SLNL&PA=83651NED&D1=0,3&D2=0&D3=14&D4=0,82&D5=a&HDR=G3,G1,T,G2,G4&VW=T>

III. The project shall, as far as possible, be innovative, involving new methods or new approaches.

13. How is the project innovative in its methods and/or approaches? (**Max. 150 words**)

What makes this project innovative, is the fact residents are at the forefront at keeping their neighborhood safe. They take action by taking preventive measures but also spot suspicious situations in their neighborhood and act to it. Another unique aspect is that the control group determines the policy for Buurtpreventie Breda. The control group consists of four residents and a representative of the police and municipality. Residents are thus problem owner. The police and municipality are mainly facilitating.

Citizen participation is the key word: in Breda residents are also responsible for their own safety in and around the home, in their own neighborhood. They observe notable cases and people and inform the police and other authorities. However, residents can also work proactively on the basis of targeted safety information. By deploying various means of communication, the police and the municipality can send messages to and receive residents via Buurtpreventie and also link action perspectives to them. The starting point is what you yourself can do preventively or reactively to an unsafe situation in the neighborhood.

IV. The project shall be based on cooperation between partners, where possible.

14. Which partners or stakeholders were involved in the project and what was their involvement? (**Max. 200 words**)

Municipality: creates policy around safety and quality of life within neighbourhoods, make sure the right people working with the municipality are in

contact with these neighbourhood watch groups, facilitates in up keeping the coordination of the project.

Police: provides crime information, informs Buurtpreventie Breda, provides attendance of police officers at events and meetings.

Residents: motivate and inform other residents to be alert and keep their neighbourhood safe, organize meetings and attend events, participate in the Buurtpreventie Breda control group.

Team Buurtpreventie Breda: maintains daily operations, formulates goals and targets, provides residents with news and information about safety trends, organises events and takes care of the network.

Home Burglary Prevention Team: the Home Burglary Prevention Team is an initiative of the Municipality of Breda and gives free advice on burglary protection in and around your home.

V. The project shall be capable of replication in other Member States.

15. How and by whom is the project funded? (**Max. 150 words**)

Buurtpreventie Breda is funded by the municipality and paid for by the safety budget. Because it is an integral part of the Breda municipality, it will enable employees to connect more effectively and efficiently to developments (mainly in the digital field and information sharing with partners) and reduce the implementation costs.

The control group monitors how the money is spent.

16. What were the costs of the project in terms of finances, material and human resources? (**Max. 150 words**)

The costs of the project for 2018 are € 271.500

- Project coordinator and Account manager volunteers: € 130.000
- Contribution to account manager information management: € 45.000
- Contribution to the Home Burglary prevention team: € 20.000
- Annual implementation costs Buurtpreventie: € 20.000
- Contribution to project officer for Buurtpreventie 2.0: € 56.500

17. Has a cost-benefit analysis been carried out? If so, describe the analysis, including how and by whom it was carried out and list the main findings of the analysis. (**Max. 150 words**)

This has not been carried out.

18. Are there adjustments to be made to the project to ensure a successful replication in another Member State?

Not necessarily. Different residents may require a different approach.

19. How is the project relevant for other Member States? Please explain the European dimension of your project.

Safety is in many cities a responsibility for the government alone. By including residents on this subject and viewing them as a partner, safety in neighbourhoods will increase. Safety is in this way a shared responsibility. Repression is traditionally more of a government task, but prevention is something residents can really contribute to. It is, after all, their own neighbourhood and place of living.

By working together as 'partners in safety' a lot of possibilities arise. If the system works as intended, safety should be 80% prevention and 20% repression. By including residents in this prevention, the chances of it being effective becoming greater. Besides that, sharing the responsibility has cost benefits.

Please provide a short general description of the project (abstract for inclusion in the conference booklet – **max. 150 words**).

Buurtpreventie (Neighborhood Prevention) Breda is a cooperative in which residents, the police and the municipality work together to increase safety and quality of life in the municipality of Breda. Residents, police and government share a responsibility for safety in neighbourhoods. This makes them partners in

safety with a leading role for the residents. Together they share information and follow trends in crime. Every partner is a vital part of the crime prevention system and they together they keep the city safe.

The policy of Buurtpreventie Breda is determined by the control group. The control group consists of four residents and a representative of the police and municipality. Residents are thus problem owner. The police and municipality are mainly facilitating. Currently, 86 neighborhood prevention, Flat Alert and Whatsapp groups have already been connected with 3.300 street contact persons and more than 18.000 addresses.