



# EMPOWERING COMMONS

## CONVERSATIONS FOR ACTION

Throughout history there have been many examples of a successful **collective use of spaces and resources**. Shared pieces of land, commons, had to be used in a balanced way to not become depleted, requiring specific spatial and social circumstances.

We are searching for fresh ideas on how to use this principle in the cities of today. How do we organize **neighborhood collectives** around energy, the reuse of water or the collection of recyclable materials? How can we make a viable connection between the initiatives of enthusiastic individuals and the directions the municipality wants to go? Can we collectively make a city **happier and healthier**? The question for an inclusive city calls for an integral approach encompassing **research, policy recommendations** and **thoughtful urban design**.



share &  
organize  
together



produce &  
repair  
together

# ROTTERDAM CITY CENTRE

## CASE STUDY

ROTTERDAM  
CITY CENTRE

In cities the division between **private and public space** tends to be sharp; an increasing number of people lives alone while crowded public spaces are not always 'social'. When too open, a city can evoke feelings of anonymity and indifference. In the inner city of Rotterdam lie many opportunities for the shared use of spaces that are now too broad and empty to use or not yet possible to reach. These can be smartly occupied and thus become key in organizing **contemporary urban collectives**, bringing people together in sharing and protecting values.



DELFT DESIGN LAB

# INCLUSIVE CITY

*The Inclusive City Hub is an interdisciplinary lab, connecting the universities of Delft, Leiden and Rotterdam, focusing on the Metropolitan Region Rotterdam - The Hague.*

How can contemporary technologies and insights be integrated in an inclusive way, that lets local people collaborate and benefit? How can people be the fuel of innovation? Profound research is needed to revalue cities as places full of collaborative spaces that can provide in energy, food, materials and thus be an integrated part of the circular economy. Also the direct landscape surrounding us has great potential in provisioning sustainable resources as well as enriching the lives of urban inhabitants. We see the ecologically and socially inclusive city as the breeding ground for a happy life.

In this way the Inclusive City Hub is focused on all connections between society, environment and economy that are undeniably relevant in the transition towards a circular economy.

Contact us at [info@inclusivity.nl](mailto:info@inclusivity.nl). More information can be found on: [www.inclusivity.nl](http://www.inclusivity.nl) and [www.centre-for-sustainability.nl](http://www.centre-for-sustainability.nl).

*Are you a student about to start your graduation project and do you want to connect with challenges in practice? Enrich your project and **join the hub!***

- Take part in an interdisciplinary studio that faces complex challenges from multiple perspectives
- Meet monthly with professionals from practice
- Contact researchers and academics from three universities
- Get inspired or speak up and share your own insights at our quarterly events
- Get all-time access to the Groot Handelsgebouw in Rotterdam to meet and work



## JOIN US!

Visit the **Kick-off Event on February 14th** and discover your role as researcher, stakeholder, student or expert within the new research groups!

16:00 - 18:30

@GROOT HANDELSGEBOUW ROTTERDAM