

Study guide

Thesis Hub The Hague Southwest

Leiden-Delft-Erasmus Universities: Governance of Migration and Diversity

Contact person: Mandy Koenraads, E: m.r.koenraads@fgga.leidenuniv.nl

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The [Thesis Hub The Hague Southwest](#) is an educational platform where various master's students from Leiden University, Delft University of Technology (TU Delft), and Erasmus University Rotterdam conduct (thesis) research from different disciplines. The research is connected to practice-oriented challenges provided by various stakeholders in The Hague Southwest, such as the Municipality of The Hague, local community professionals, and residents. In this document, you will find all the important information about the expectations of students participating in the Thesis Hub and important dates that you need to note for participation."

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Process and expectations



What does the thesis process look like?

Unlike many other master's theses, the starting point for your research design is the list of practice-oriented challenges (see appendix). You choose to use one of the challenges from the list as the basis for your research question for your thesis. The formulated challenges in the list are highly practice-oriented. It's your task to translate them into a well-formed research question. This is where the translation from practice to research takes place. Your supervisor can provide guidance in this process. In the first few weeks, you write a research proposal like any other master's student. However, what's different is that you present this during the kick-off meeting to relevant stakeholders, such as policy officials from the Municipality of The Hague, project leaders, and key figures in The Hague Southwest. This part of the Thesis Hub The Hague Southwest is mandatory. It's a great starting point to establish contacts for your data collection and to receive feedback on your research proposal from the stakeholders.

Subsequently, you independently conduct your research for your thesis under the guidance of your own supervisor. During this period, there are three mandatory workshops you will participate in: the Workshop Doing Ethics, the Workshop Method Café, and the Workshop Science

Communication in Society. Additionally, there are extra (optional!) contact moments planned with other master's students affiliated with the thesis hub. After completing your thesis, it is expected that you will translate (a portion of) your research results into a different communication product. During the closing event, these results will be discussed with the relevant stakeholders using a World Café setup. This provides an opportunity to give back to the stakeholders of The Hague Southwest and engage in discussions with them about your research findings. The closing event and the communication product are mandatory components of the thesis hub. This is where the transition from research to policy is ensured. Refer to the image on the following page for the entire process.



Important: All mandatory components and deadlines related to your own master's thesis still apply. In the Thesis Hub The Hague Southwest, we collaborate closely with our stakeholders; however, they are aware that students do not have an obligation to produce specific results. What we do require is a certain level of effort, which is why an agreement is signed during the initial contact moment – see page 18 of this document. Each element of the Thesis Hub The Hague Southwest is explained separately below in terms of purpose and structure.

Six mandatory components

1. Kick-off Meeting

Aim: An initial contact/networking event involving all relevant stakeholders to discuss the content of the master students' research proposals. This contact moment ensures societal relevance and proper alignment of the research proposal, while also providing students the

opportunity to establish the right contacts for their research.

Format: Brief presentation followed by a Q&A

Deadline: Submission of PowerPoint slides one week in advance

2. **Workshop Doing Ethics**

Aim: Raising awareness about ethical considerations in research. Creating awareness among each student about their responsibility when conducting research, whether qualitative or quantitative. Topics such as privacy policies, data storage, sensitive subjects, and participant feedback will be covered. This workshop will be conducted by Dr. Rodrigo Mena Fluhmann and Dr. Nanneke Winters from the Institute of Social Science (ISS).

Format: Interactive presentation + brainstorming on ethical issues in your own research

Registration: Through this form

3. **Workshop Method Café**

Aim: Encouraging students to explore research methods beyond surveys and semi-structured interviews for their theses. Engage in discussions with experts sharing their experiences with methods like photo-voice, art-based workshops, focus groups, and more.

Format: Round-table discussions in small groups + brainstorming on applying methods in your research

Registration: Through this form

4. **Workshop Science Communication in Society**

Aim: Conceptualizing (a portion of) research results into a communication product for a non-academic audience. Discussing goals, audience, format, and messaging for communication purposes. Workshop led by Julie Schoorl from Leiden University, Science Communication and Society, with input from a policy official.

Format: Interactive presentation with peer review of each other's work + brainstorming communication products for your research

Registration: Through this form

5. **Communication Product**

Aim: Translating research into practice. After conducting research and writing the thesis, students are expected to translate their findings into a communication product aimed at non-academic audiences. Students can choose a format like a podcast, video, blog, infographic, policy note, etc., as long as the target audience is not academics.

Deadline: Two weeks before the closing meeting

6. **Closing event**

Aim: Concluding event to present research results and communication products to relevant stakeholders. Facilitates dialogue and knowledge sharing. Students will prepare a 1-2 minute video pitch of their research ahead of time for stakeholders to determine which tables to join.

Format: Three round-table discussions in small groups, held in The Hague Southwest

Deadline: Submission of short pitch three weeks in advance and PowerPoint slides one week in advance

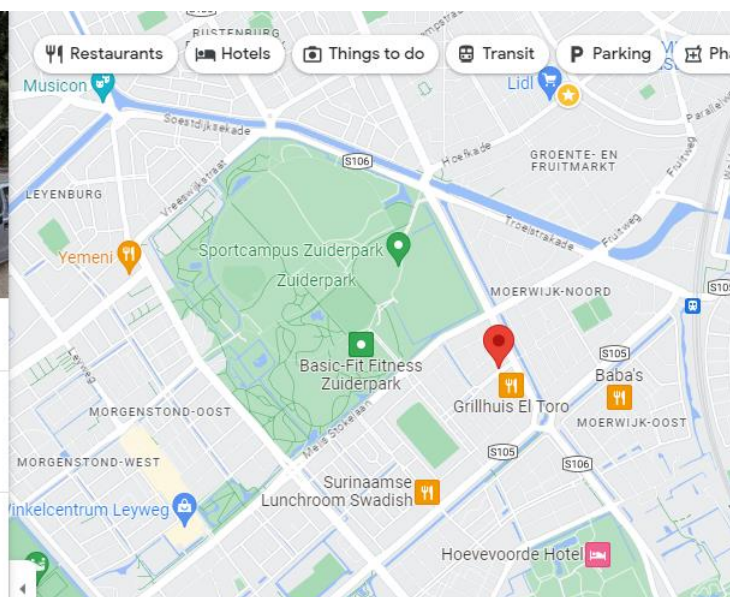
Optional Components

The thesis hub schedules several meetings (both physical and online) per semester for students. These meetings serve as opportunities for students to discuss their research progress with the coordinator and engage with other master's students from different disciplines to exchange thoughts and reflect on their research process. The intention is to hold these meetings in The Hague Southwest to allow students to experience the neighborhood's context.

Registration Deadline: At least one working day in advance via email

Pandje H – With Heart and Head in Moerwijk

Since October 2022, the Thesis Hub The Hague Southwest has a shared physical location in Moerwijk (Address: Jan Luykenlaan 29, 2533 JK The Hague). This temporary location is used by The Hague University of Applied Sciences, community professionals, and residents. Some meetings take place at Pandje H to be visible and present in the research area. Through this shared location, we have become a reliable partner in the neighbourhood. Teachers and students are welcome to use the space at no cost for activities such as interviews, focus groups, workshops, or similar endeavours. Of course, you can also use the location as a workspace when visiting The Hague Southwest. Through an open calendar, you can indicate when you'd like to use the space and whether you'll be using it alone or if other partners can also use the space. If you want to use the location, please get in touch with the student assistant or coordinator for practical matters such as obtaining the key.



Timeline 2023 – 2024

In the table below, you'll find an overview of all the important dates and events of the thesis hub The Hague Southwest. **Please accurately note these in your calendar.** The bolded activities in the first table are mandatory. The dates and locations listed below are subject to change. If applicable, you will receive an email with the updated dates or location.

Table 1. Dates of mandatory components

What	Day	Time	Location
Workshop Doing Ethics	Friday 13 Oct	10:00 - 12:30	Pandje H Jan Luykenlaan 29, Moerwijk
Kick-off meeting	Thursday 26 Oct	14:30 – 16:30	Pandje H Jan Luykenlaan 29 , Moerwijk
Workshop Method Café	Wednesday 8 Nov	10:00 – 12:00	University Leiden Schouwburgstraat, Den Haag
Workshop Science Communication in Society	Thursday 14 Dec	9:30 – 12:00	Municipality of The Hague Spui 70, Den Haag
Closing Event	Wednesday 7 Feb	10:00 – 12:30	BLOCK 33 Van Baerlestraat 89 , Moerwijk

Table 2. Dates of optional meetings

Datum	Tijd	Waar
Wednesday 7 Oct	11:00 – 12:30	Campus The Hague, Turfmarkt 99
Thursday 19 Oct	13:30 – 15:00	Pandje H, Moerwijk
Wednesday 8 Nov	11:00 – 13:00	Campus The Hague, Turfmarkt 99
Monday 20 Nov	10:30 – 12:30	Pandje H, Moerwijk
Thursday 7 Dec	10:30 – 12:30	Online, Teams
Wednesday 20 Dec	10:00 – 12:00	Pandje H, Moerwijk
Thursday 11 Jan	13:30 – 15:30	Campus The Hague, Turfmarkt 99

Practice-orientated challenges

Thesis Hub The Hague Southwest

Municipality The Hague | Policy officers

National Program The Hague Southwest (NPDHZW)

- What role does school play in society when it comes to safety? What signalling function can schools have?
- What is the value of meeting places for the neighbourhood/society? (cost-benefit analysis) Who are these meeting places for?

Participation Program

The Participation Program of NPDHZW aims to establish a 'Participation Workshop.' This is one of the program's priorities. The workshop should be a place where people become familiar with various participation techniques and learn how to organize things. The project leaders act as connectors. An organizational issue has been raised from the program:

- How can the organization of a 'Participation Workshop' be best structured? Elements such as who should be at the table and when should be preferably considered.
- Energy transition: How inclusive is the energy transition, and to what extent do residents have control?

When the Environmental Law comes into effect, participation will be mandated by law. Since participation is tailored to specific situations, the law does not specify how participation should take place. The municipality is currently exploring how to set this up effectively. What could be helpful is the perspective of citizens and their expectations.

- What would be of interest to the municipality is what residents want to participate in regarding the Environmental Law. And what are their expectations of participation in this context? So, under what conditions/requirements/preferences can citizens participate most effectively.

- For example: What do they expect from the information feedback after participation? A long and detailed report with all considerations or a concise story with the outcome (or something else).
- A follow-up question: Does it make sense for residents to participate if the municipality cannot meet their expectations? Will residents invest time in it? With the obligation of participation through the law, residents are also obliged to participate. Under the Environmental Law, participation is not optional. Do residents also feel this responsibility?

Education and Health Program

NPDHZW is a large program with many layers and parties. A governance issue has been presented concerning The Hague Southwest.

- What form of governance is most suitable for NPDHZW to maintain efficiency despite the program's large size? This should take into account the municipality's relationship with partners and residents. How can you ensure that there is effective collaboration at the macro (area-level), meso (service-level), and micro (implementation-level), all working towards the same goal?

The collaboration between parents and schools in The Hague Southwest is strained in some places (read: this is broader than in ZW, but in neighbourhoods like this, it's necessary to give children more opportunities). Schools report that parents are not sufficiently involved, and children are not adequately prepared for school. Proficiency in the Dutch language, behaviour, but also having breakfast and showing interest in the home environment are issues for participation. On the other hand, parents feel that they are not being heard by the school. What hasn't helped in this regard is that parents have not been allowed into the school for the past two years due to the COVID-19 situation, and digital communication is not a given for everyone. To truly provide children with opportunities in school, it is important for schools and parents to (be able to) work together.

- How can the Municipality of The Hague help improve the collaboration between parents (parent participation) and schools; what obstacles need to be removed for this? What is needed for this?

Safety Program

In the Prevention with Authority program, the focus in addressing at-risk youth is specific (rather than the entire youth demographic). It is useful to understand how the (early) signalling function in the neighbourhoods of Southwest can be strengthened.

- Which young people are currently at an elevated risk of getting involved in criminal activities? There is quite a bit of national/scientific knowledge about this, but we actually have limited insight into the situation in Southwest. Are the risk groups different in this part of the city?
- What role do social networks of young people play in whether or not they engage in criminal behaviour?

Economic Program

- What is the purpose, necessity, and impact of adjusted rental prices for starting entrepreneurs, and what instruments can be used for this purpose?

Urban Planning and Housing Program

- Place-making: How can you measure place-making? What value creation is needed around place-making?
- Project In the Meantime: In the context of temporality, how can you ensure practical and efficient dual use of certain locations such as sports facilities, sports fields, etc.?
- Meeting places: What is needed in the built and public space for residents to meet each other? Including elements of randomness, long-term meetings, and economic aspects.

The Hague Southwest | Projects and Residents

Housing Corporations (Staedion and Haagwonen)

- How can new (clustered) housing concepts in social housing contribute to livability? Social cohesion is seen as part of livability: what housing concepts are suitable/can be designed for The Hague Southwest, where clustered residential groups can live together

and use facilities to promote social cohesion? Inspirational concepts include De Waterspin and Woongroep Pander.

- How can inner courtyards contribute to neighborhood livability? How should they be designed to involve residents from start to finish so that they feel responsible for the greenery? What are the prerequisites for residents to achieve social cohesion in the inner courtyard?
- What is the impact of housing for target groups and asylum seekers on livability (including social cohesion) in the neighborhood?
- How do we bridge the temporariness (related to all renovation and redevelopment projects) in The Hague Southwest in terms of livability?
- What infrastructure / public space interventions can be made in The Hague Southwest to increase connections between neighborhoods, communities, and (green) facilities? Think about creating connections over major roads, water, and green spaces.
- What facilities are needed in the priority area, including a place for youth?
- How can the Municipality of The Hague increase residents' willingness to report when they do not comply with the housing corporation's standards – how can their sense of citizenship be enhanced?

The Hague Southwest

- The government's legal duty is to motivate residents to participate in society. However, some people cannot participate. There remains a group that cannot participate. What do professionals in the social domain in Zuidwest think about this? Does this group really exist? How large is this group? What are the characteristics? How should we address this group? What kind of facilities do you need?
- How can the impact of residents' participation in the Mengelmoestuinen be measured in terms of health and social cohesion? How can the effect of the MengelMoestuinen be measured in terms of improving the living environment and social cohesion?
- How can youth work make the impact of its work more transparent and increase the visibility of its activities?
- Besides demolition and new construction, what are sustainable and/or circular options for renovation, rooftop additions, and densification? How can densification be accompanied by high-quality public space and greenery, within the context of the urban structure?

Moerwijk

- To what extent do extracurricular activities contribute to the development/livability of children? And do the costs (financial/time, etc.) outweigh the benefits (improvement)?
- Why are the collaborations of the parties in Moerwijk difficult to coordinate? And what is needed to make this successful?
- What role can/should a school play in ensuring the future prospects of youth? What is needed for this?
- How can Buurtschool Moerwijk, in collaboration with other stakeholders in the neighborhood, improve safety in and around the school?
- How do you map a good network of everything that is available in Moerwijk; specifically, around young children and families? (research method: network analysis)
- What is the value of the social network/formal network in Moerwijk? Or: In what ways can you visualize/inventory a network? This can be done in a comprehensive overview of a network and social network. Or more creatively/art-based.
- How do we bring all formal and informal initiatives and networks within the playing field of Moerwijk closer together?
- What are possible funding forms for the sustainable funding of existing initiatives?
- How do we ensure sustainable cooperation between the various initiatives and the more formal structures within Moerwijk?
- What are the distinctive values of various locations within a certain cluster?

Morgenstond

- How can we involve parents more in their children's education at the Tamarschool? (issue: parent participation)
- How can (primary) schools support children/youth in broadening their study/future perspective? What role/responsibility does a primary school have in this?
- What are the necessary conditions for successfully placing a havo/vwo (higher secondary education) school in The Hague Southwest? This includes aspects like buildings, location, facilities, politics, policies, etc., but also what is needed from primary schools to promote the transition to a havo/vwo school in The Hague Southwest?

Bouwlust/Vrederust

- What themes emerge when we talk about connections between people and meaning/significance-giving: how do residents of Bouwlust/Vrederust identify with these concepts? What are residents of Bouwlust/Vrederust proud of? How do you connect people in times like these? – a research method that could be interesting here is storytelling.
- To what extent do the media influence the future prospects of youth?
- What needs are there in the (neighborhood) for performing light tasks with social value, without displacing regular employment? It must provide social value to the neighborhood but must not lead to displacement. Examples of tasks currently being performed include cooking and delivering fresh soup to lonely (elderly) residents, patrolling the neighborhood and reporting instances of bulky waste on the streets, helping residents with simple tasks.
- To what extent does providing a fixed amount as compensation provide a different added value for the participant(s) of the Instapeconomie?
- Which locations in The Hague Southwest are suitable for neighborhood businesses (meeting places, activity spaces, gardens to work in, outdoor areas for activities, meeting rooms, etc.)? And what prerequisites make these spaces suitable for the respective activities?
- To what extent does cross-pollination between social activities and/or the use of Dutch as a language contribute to group formation based on shared language use or culture within an informal organization like Allekanten? What prerequisites are needed to effectively prevent group formation/exclusion within social activities? (method)
- To what extent can current projects at Allekanten be sustained sustainably and independently by residents in the neighborhood so that the accumulated social capital (network) is not lost when financial support is lost. What prerequisites need to be in place for the projects to be sustained sustainably by residents? To what extent is support needed from external parties?

Privacy and data exchange



Participation in the thesis hub The Hague Southwest implies that your data will be shared with third parties. The legal basis for this is the public interest. The sharing of personal data (name and email) among students from different universities (Leiden, Delft, and Rotterdam) is a part of the thesis hub's efforts to enhance collaborative work among students. The details of who, why, and what is being shared are explained below. For additional information on how your data is handled as a student, please refer to the general privacy statement for students on your university's website.

[Universiteit Leiden](#)

[TU Delft](#)

[Erasmus Universiteit](#)

Exchange of Personal Data of Contacts by Students

Since the closing meeting involves the presentation of research results and concrete policy recommendations by multiple master's students, we consider it important for students to provide their participants and contacts with the opportunity to attend the meeting. However, it's crucial to inform the concerned individuals that their data will be shared with the coordinator of the

thesis hub so that an invitation can be arranged. Additionally, it's important to be aware that if a person chooses to attend the meeting, their anonymity in the research cannot be (fully) ensured anymore. Therefore, it's **highly important** to inform your participant/contact beforehand and explicitly seek their consent. We have prepared a sample text that you can use for this purpose

Sample Text:

I would like to inform you that at the conclusion of my research, there will be a closing event where research results and policy recommendations will be shared by students affiliated with the thesis hub The Hague Southwest. The event will be attended by various university staff, representatives from the Municipality of The Hague, as well as professionals and key figures from The Hague Southwest. If you're interested, you are more than welcome to attend the closing event. It's important to note that I will be sharing your contact information (name and email) with the coordinator of the thesis hub The Hague Southwest, Mandy Koenraads, and her student assistant so they can extend an invitation to you for the event.

I would also like to emphasize that your presence at the event might be associated with my research by other attendees – this may not necessarily be the case, but I cannot say for certain. Would you like to receive an invitation to the closing event of my research? If yes, by placing your signature, you grant permission to share your contact information with the coordinator of the thesis hub The Hague Southwest and her student assistant. Your data will be deleted after the closing event.

[Name]

[Date and Place]

[Your Signature]

Exchange of Personal Data within the Thesis Hub The Hague Southwest

Other Master's Students

Aim: The thesis hub is an educational platform based on interdisciplinary research collaboration. Therefore, it is desirable to connect master's students from various universities to facilitate communication among them without relying solely on the coordinator.

Data Exchange: Name, field of study, university, student email, and research question linked to the chosen challenge.

Municipality of The Hague

Aim: The thesis hub is a collaboration between the Municipality of The Hague and the LDE Centre Governance of Migration and Diversity. As partners, we aim to share an overview of participating students and the topics they will be working on throughout the academic year.

Data Exchange: Name, master's program, university, student email, and research question linked to the chosen challenge.

Contact Person for the Chosen Challenge

Aim: Promoting integral collaboration between the external contact person in The Hague Southwest and the master's student. Facilitating a joint contact moment between the external contact, student, and supervisor aims to enhance the engagement of all parties.

Data Exchange: Name, master's program, university, student email, and research question linked to the chosen challenge.

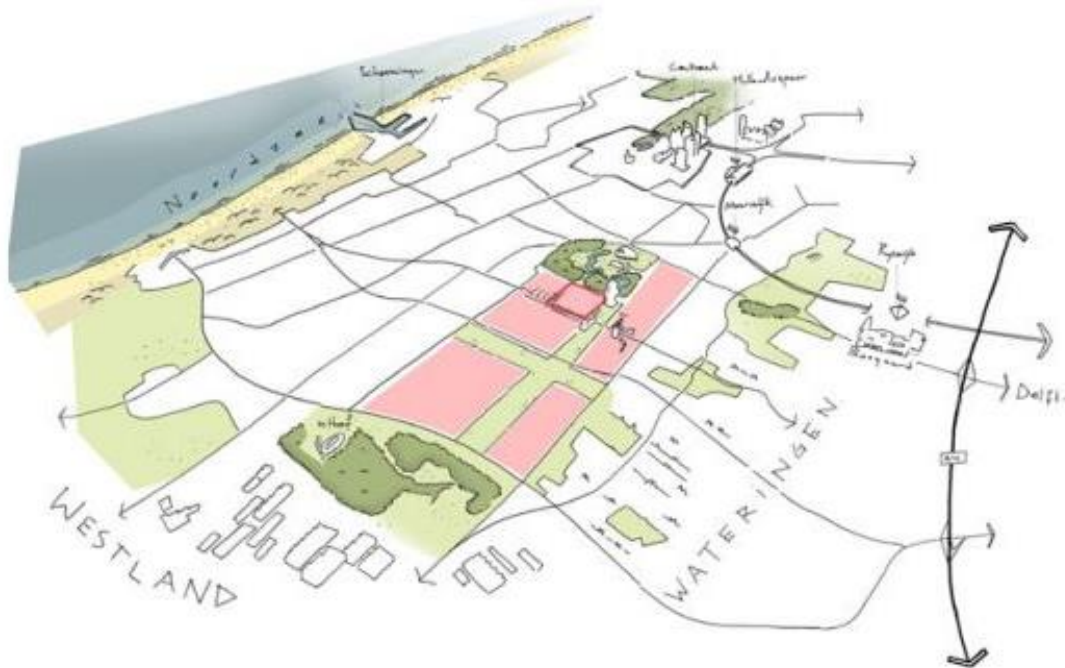
Sharing Data on the LDE GMD Website

Aim: Ensuring transparency about ongoing and completed research projects undertaken by master's students. Universities also value making the output of the thesis hub accessible to all. For this purpose, all output will be collected on a publicly accessible website. If you grant permission as a student, your entire thesis will be uploaded to the LDE GMD website. The communication product is a mandatory component and will be published on the website.

Ongoing Research: Mention of master's program, university, research question linked to the chosen challenge.

Completed Research: Mention of university, master's thesis, communication product.

Background Information



Why is a Thesis Hub The Hague Southwest necessary?

The Municipality of The Hague is faced with several complex societal challenges in The Hague Southwest. The four neighborhoods (Bouwlust, Vrederust, Morgenstond, and Moerwijk) comprise approximately 70,000 residents – a population size comparable to that of the city of Gouda. These residents grapple with multiple socio-economic issues such as poverty, debt, unemployment, livelihood security, polarization, and health problems. In order to address the wicked problems in The Hague Southwest, a Regiodeal was formulated in 2019, outlining substantial investments in these four neighborhoods for the years to come.

The challenges in The Hague Southwest necessitate an interdisciplinary approach, requiring a strong bridge to be built between policy, research, education, and practice. The Municipality of The Hague has approached the LDE Center Governance of Migration and Diversity (GMD) to become a partner, aiming to establish a meaningful connection between research, policy, and practice. Meanwhile, we have established our own location in The Hague Southwest (Jan Luykenlaan 29, Moerwijk). This location is shared with The Hague University of Applied Sciences and community initiatives in Moerwijk.

Collaboration between universities

Leiden-Delft-Erasmus Universities (LDE) is the collaboration between the three universities in those cities, including their Medical Centers (UMC's). The LDE-Centre Governance of Migration and Diversity takes a multidisciplinary approach to governance and policy issues in four South Holland cities, namely Leiden, The Hague, Rotterdam, and Delft. Each university contributes to this collaboration based on its strengths and expertise. By connecting various master's thesis research projects to relevant practical challenges in The Hague Southwest, the bridge between scientific knowledge and practical insights is reinforced. In this way, the thesis workshop aims to make a positive contribution to future-oriented societal, administrative, and policy developments in The Hague Southwest.

Sources for additional contact information about The Hague Southwest

The [Regiodeal \(2019-2023\)](#) has come to an end and continues as part of the National Program for The Hague Southwest. ['Zuidwest op z'n best'](#) is the communication platform aimed at residents. Several [news articles](#) have been written about the thesis workshop The Hague Southwest, providing more background information. There is a nice, short video created by Marieke Kessel of Gezond en Gelukkig Den Haag following the Moerwijk-Oost Story Night: ['We gaan samen aan de slag'](#) – – this provides a glimpse into residents' experiences. Furthermore, you can review the [district agendas for the neighborhood\(s\)](#) to see what the municipality envisions for each neighborhood in the next four years. The foundation of the district agenda is formed by quantitative and qualitative data about the neighborhood: the neighborhood profile. Regarding public spaces, each neighborhood has a [website](#) provided by the Municipality of The Hague, and it is recommended to consult [relevant policy documents](#) from the city council. Additionally, the Municipality of The Hague has an [open data platform](#) that contains a wealth of information for quantitative research. Other sources include the ['bijstandsmonitor'](#), ['armoedemonitor'](#), ['leefbaarheidscirkel'](#) en ['Gezond&Gelukkig Den Haag'](#). Finally, [Platform STAD](#) regularly organizes relevant city discussions about The Hague Southwest, such as ['The Hague Southwest is klaar voor nieuwe Wijkaanpak'](#), ['Meer groene kwaliteit en verdichten in The Hague Southwest'](#) and ['Vervoer tussen regio en voordeur: katalysator voor een sterker The Hague Southwest'](#). These discussions provide more context about The Hague Southwest.

Agreement Effort Obligation

I, [STUDENT NAME], hereby join the educational program of the Thesis Hub The Hague Southwest and acknowledge the attendance requirement for the six mandatory components and dates. Although I cannot guarantee a specific outcome, I am committed to keeping the coordinator well-informed of my progress and any barriers during the entire thesis process of the Thesis Hub The Hague Southwest.*

I will respectfully engage with the context of The Hague Southwest as a student and strive to leave this research area better. My fellow students can expect an active attitude from me during the meetings, just as I expect from them.

I grant permission for my communication product to be shared on the website of the Thesis Hub The Hague Southwest with third parties.

Date

Location

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Signature

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