

Developments and opportunities for the future in the Dutch informal help and care sector

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Netherlands centre
for social development

MOVISIE



A knowledge institute for social development in the Netherlands in the fields of welfare, participation, care and safety.



Definitions Informal carers

1. Family carers: Social bonding with care recipient, resident

‘Family carers’ are friends, neighbours, acquaintances

2. Volunteers: no personal connection at the start of the care period



Dutch statistics family carers

- 3,5 million family carers (2008)
- 20% population > 18 years of age provide family care >3 months and/or >8 hours a week (2013)
- Source: SCP (Dutch Institute for social research)



Question 1 The percentage of all care provided by family carers



- Stay seated: 5%
- Stand up: 10%
- Turn around: 20%



Question 2 Which family member cares most?



- Stay seated: 65+ woman taking care of her spouse
- Stand up: 45+ daughter taking care of her independently living parent(s)
- Turn around: 40+ man taking care of live-in mother



Question 3 How many people combine family care with a paid job?



- Stay seated: 1 out of 7
- Stand up: 1 out of 12
- Turn around: 1 out of 20



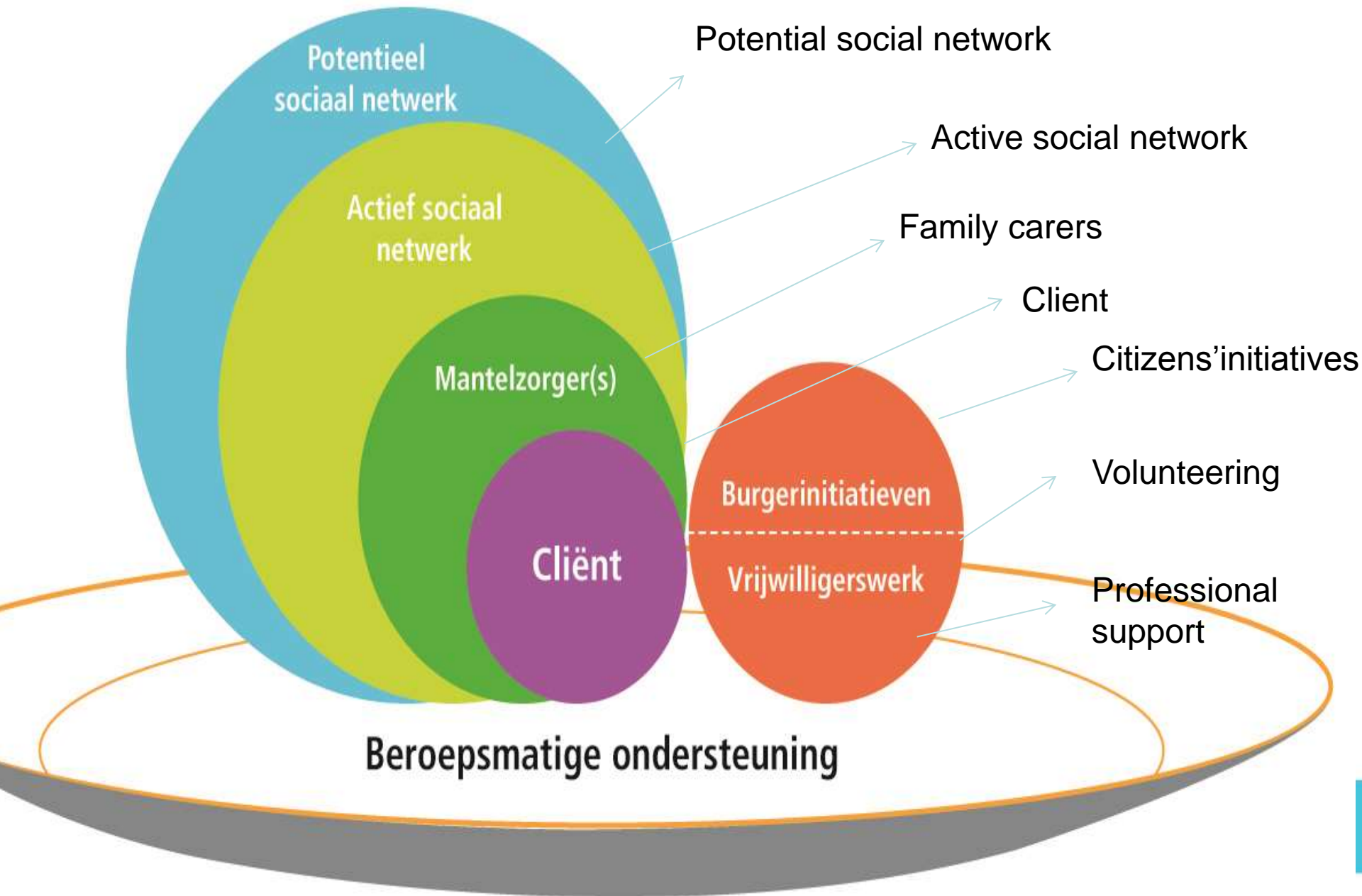
Developments and Challenges

Transformation from a welfare state to a participation society



- Budgetary cuts and constraints
- Decentralisation of responsibilities to municipalities
- Closing down of residential homes for the elderly
- Shifting the burden of care to the community





Focus on Teamwork formal – informal care

- Samenwerken: Working together
- Ondersteunen: Support
- Faciliteren: Facilitate
- Afstemmen: Finetuning



SCP-Research on the options of increasing informal care

In-actives

- Prefer to help relatives rather than starting as a volunteer
- Conditions helping neighbours

“We rarely have contact in our neighborhood. I don’t even know what their names are. Should I bang on their doors; ding, dong, how are you? ”

- Resistance

‘Because of the policy of retrenchment, we are obliged to provide informal care. We have to. It does not feel well.’



More time is needed to make the transition work

How can we transform together?

Appreciative Inquiry

- Together with citizens, volunteers, carers, professionals and policy makers working on a new future!
- What is working, what are examples of successful initiatives?
- What might be? 'Dream'

A process for culture change facilitated
by Movisie



Discussion

- Similar developments in your country?
- Is it possible to increase informal care, and how?
- What is working, what are examples of successful initiatives?
- What might be?



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