Theory of Change

Wilde Ganzen

/ Content

What we believe in

Poverty, exclusion and injustice are the greatest enemies of progress and happiness. It cripples initiative, undermines relationships, ignores talent, takes away pride. This puts millions of people at a debilitating disadvantage. Fortunately, there are civil society organisations that are taking action with problem solvers in their neighborhoods and villages. With a concrete project, they work with the community to make crucial improvements that trigger positive developments.

This equal cooperation motivates, connects, gives confidence and makes people proud and responsible. Working together to combat poverty, exclusion and injustice mobilises people to come up with their own solutions.

The intended **impact** is:

A world in which people living in poverty improve their situation and their future on their own.

We believe we can contribute to this change through the following three strategies.

Strategies

① We support sustainable projects supported by local communities

It is important that people organise and work together equally to counter poverty, exclusion, and injustice. Changes are more sustainable when **communities**★ are closely involved in the creation and continuation of relevant **basic services**★ such as education and health care. And developments are more sustainable if they are supported by powerful, independent organisations on the ground that can cope with setbacks and are (partly) independent of foreign aid.

▶ That is why we **fund projects of civil society organisations**★ for sustainable access to relevant basic facilities. These are concrete projects with a human dimension and **sustainable**★ results.

▶ We also **strengthen CSOs in participatory**★ **work** with stakeholders and communities. In this approach, communities themselves identify problems, needs, and rights and translate these into solutions for which they themselves take (joint) responsibility. We stimulate this through training, coaching, and education.

▶ We **support civil society organisations in operating autonomously**★ **and resiliently.**★ With training, coaching, and match-funding, we strengthen their capacity to raise funds in their own environment, think critically about rights, and hold **authorities**★ accountable for fulfilling obligations.

Ultimately, supporting these CSOs leads to **well-organised and resilient communities that have control over and access to relevant, quality basic services.**

Strategies

② We create an enabling environment for input from local CSOs

We encourage donor organisations (including private development initiatives) and governments to make more room for participation, input, and ownership of local partners. Given the #shiftthepower debate, (more) equal relations and power dynamics are needed between donor organisations and partners. After all, many problems require local solutions where input from local partners is a requirement.

▸ It is important that **donor organisations*** support their partners' **autonomy** and **resilience.*** Therefore, we call on them to reflect on their practices and we facilitate training, coaching, and mutual learning between CSOs and their donors. In doing so, we aim to raise awareness about both harmful and empowering practices and contribute to change.

▸ In addition, we **defend and expand space for civil society.** We do this by strengthening the capacity of CSOs to make their voices heard towards the government and stand up for their rights. In this way, they claim the space to continue doing their work. We also support initiatives to advocate towards **authorities*** for less restrictive legislation for civil society.

▸ Finally, we **support initiatives to lobby for an enabling environment for local philanthropy**, for example, through legislation that encourages 'giving' or support for emerging philanthropic foundations. Local philanthropy strengthens the autonomy and resilience of civil society organisations. Moreover, with a local constituency, they have a stronger voice when advocating for the rights of the people they represent.

As a result, **governments are more likely to engage with CSOs and fulfil their obligations.**
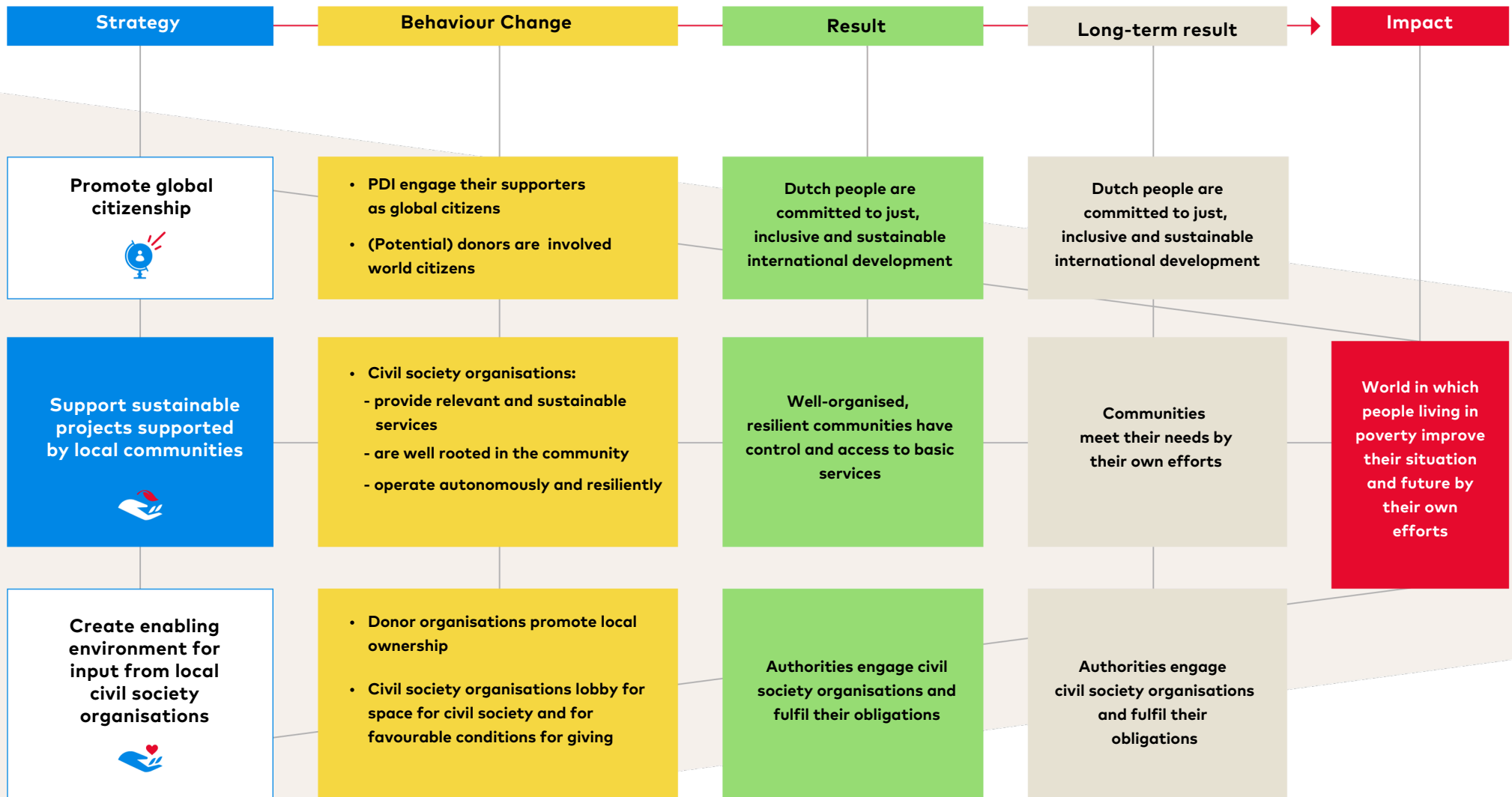
Strategies

③ We promote global citizenship

As global citizens, people are part of a larger whole that does not stop at the boundaries of their own local or national community. We believe it is important for people to grow in **global citizenship*** and thereby:

- learn about local, global and intercultural issues
- understand perspectives and worldviews of others
- engage openly with people from different cultures
- act towards collective well-being and sustainable development

▶ Therefore, **we encourage donors to grow as global citizens.** We do this with positive stories of people and their organisations tackling poverty. And with concrete action perspectives for sustainable development.

▶ That is why we also **encourage private development initiatives (PDI) to involve their supporters as global citizens**. We do this in the Netherlands and if possible, elsewhere in Europe through funding, training, knowledge exchange, campaigns and events.

This strategy converts the challenges of globalisation into concrete action perspectives in the Netherlands. The objective is for **citizens to commit themselves internationally to a just, sustainable, and solidarity-based society.**

Wilde Ganzen Theory of Change

Strategy	Behaviour Change	Result	Long-term result	Impact

Promote global citizenship

- PDI engage their supporters as global citizens
- (Potential) donors are involved world citizens

Dutch people are committed to just, inclusive and sustainable international development

Dutch people are committed to just, inclusive and sustainable international development

Support sustainable projects supported by local communities

- Civil society organisations:
  - provide relevant and sustainable services
  - are well rooted in the community
  - operate autonomously and resiliently

Well-organised, resilient communities have control and access to basic services

Communities meet their needs by their own efforts

World in which people living in poverty improve their situation and future by their own efforts

Create enabling environment for input from local civil society organisations

- Donor organisations promote local ownership
- Civil society organisations lobby for space for civil society and for favourable conditions for giving

Authorities engage civil society organisations and fulfil their obligations

Authorities engage civil society organisations and fulfil their obligations

Definitions

⭐ **Autonomous:** Not overly dependent on financial or managerial support from foreign entities, and (for example) able to make their own choices when it comes to allocation of resources, based on diversified revenues.

⭐ **Authorities:** Those who have an obligation or responsibility in respecting, protecting, and fulfilling rights.

⭐ **Basic services:** Basic health care, clean water, food, shelter, proper sanitation, basic education, and employment (basic human rights).

⭐ **Sustainable:** A long-term and positive change.

⭐ **Donororganisations**: Funds, bi- and multilateral donors, international NGOs, or small-scale private development initiatives (PDI) that provide financial support to organisations in DAC countries.

⭐ **Community:** People, organisations and agencies that have a like-minded interest in the initiative.

⭐ **Civil society organisations:** Refers to actors in low- and middle-income countries such as community organisations, movements, informal groups, and human rights defenders (including their support networks).

⭐ **Participatory:** Stakeholders are involved in all phases of the change process. This approach seeks to avoid the pitfalls of imposed change by empowering individuals to reach an agreement and to feel jointly responsible for solutions. It is based on collective decision-making.

⭐ **Resilient:** Able to cope with setbacks with little outside help.

⭐ **Global citizenship:** Behaviour that upholds the following three principles: interdependence (1) and equality (2) of people worldwide and thus shared responsibility (3) for solving global issues.

Assumptions

▶ All communities have the power to make their desired change happen BECAUSE they have the resources (finances, skills, knowledge, networks etc.) that can be deployed to address their needs.

▶ Realising community involvement in development of basic services - also (partly) externally funded-, ultimately lead to communities that stand up for their rights. BECAUSE communities become motivated when they see results, and can address other needs independently.

▶ Greater capacity of civil society organisations to strengthen their local support base and mobilise domestic resources will make their work become more relevant and sustainable. BECAUSE there is more trust and engagement between organisations and their constituencies – because they become less dependent on foreign support – they can better safeguard their community's priorities. If they do not do this then their constituencies will forgo support and money.

▶ Greater capacity of civil society organisations to strengthen their local support base and mobilise domestic resources also leads to stronger civil society organisations that are better able to stand up for their rights towards the government, BECAUSE the constituency has a stake in their organisation, organisations have more legitimacy, they cannot be put away as foreign organisations. (source: INTRAC research link mobilization of domestic resources and social space

▶ Changing behaviour among the Wilden Ganzen constituency reaches a small but motivated group. This leads to a stronger call for fairer international development. BECAUSE the supporters do not only donate but is also commanded to act.

WILDE GANZEN

Klein project Groot verschil