

# People aren't disabled, their city is

Presentation Wilbert Willems,  
Chairman

“Breda for everyone, hospitable and accessible”

Platform for co-operation towards a more inclusive society with more  
than 25 private and public partners

## Who we are and how we work

- Our Platform has been established in 2015 with partners from the 4 O's: Overheid (local government), Ondernemers (business), Onderwijs (educational institutes) and Organisaties (NGO's also for people with an handicap)
- Small working group once a month; every 3 months debates about inclusive society; digital Newsletter 4/5 times a year; social media with Website Breda voor iedereen, facebook and twitter
- Events with a variety of partners: "iedereen doet mee" (everyone takes part), "Winkels zonder drempels" (retail without thresholds), Workshops for public transport staff etc
- Special focus on commercial partners like hotels, cafe's (pubs), retail, small business, service industries, cinema etc

## What we have done (in short)

- Building a fund ( € 200.000) where retail and horeca-business can get financial support and advice to improve their accessibility
- Making surveys of all public space and buildings which should be more accessible and giving them advice and support for improvements
- Organising awareness through meetings with public servants, politicians, hotel owners, tourist attractions, organisations of festivals and events, retail and business organisations
- Distribution of information, guidelines, good practices and experiences from other cities

## What we want next years

- All people with disabilities, living and working in the city or coming from abroad should get the same opportunities and (sometimes adapted) facilities as everyone; this should be realised in 2030;
- Together with BUAS, Breda University of Applied Sciences ( with departments of traffic, tourism, gaming, horeca etc) we want to continue their development Lab on accessible tourism and we are looking for partners in other cities and countries;
- Our partner ZET together with Breda Gelijk are training staff in hotels, pubs and restaurants but also taxi and bus drivers how they can improve their attitude towards people with disabilities

## Tourist lab in Europe

- On October 21st we organised in Breda the second annual meeting of Access City Award Winners. There were 20 cities represented who won last years this Award. We gave special attention to Inclusive Tourism;
- Together with the Tourism Department of Breda University of Applied Sciences we invited the participants to join us in a Tourist Lab where we can share experiences, build up new strategies and inspire our cities;
- Besides Breda, 5 other cities were positive: Ville de Luxembourg (L), Funchal (P), Valencia (E), Olomouc (CZ) and Gent (B). Also Enat, Accessible Travel Netherlands and National Tourism Board Holland want to cooperate.
- Next year we have planned to execute this plan.

These are some of our partners in the Platform Breda for everyone, hospitable and accessible



# Thank you

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