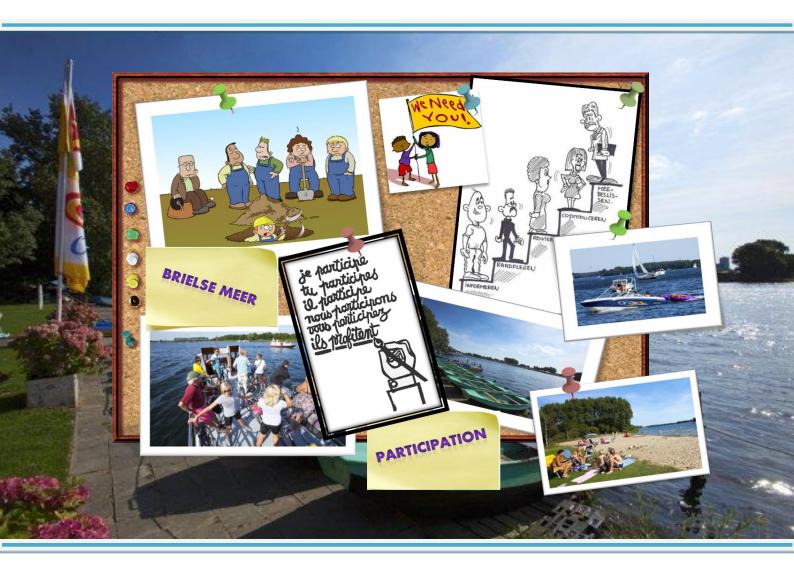
# Re-creation and participation

A research towards participation issues of recreatieschap Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg in the area of Brielse Meer



Fleur van der Zandt, September 2012

Master Thesis Human Geography, Specialization Urban and Cultural Geography



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Nijmegen School of Management Master thesis Human Geography

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### **Summary**

#### **Background**

In the Netherlands for already several years a transition is going in the division of responsibility between the government, the market and citizens. Nowadays this movement is speeding up because of the financial crisis. Lack of financial resources forces governments to give more room to initiatives from the private sector.

For recreational areas in the Netherlands, this new hands-off mentality of the government led to problems. Less state money is available for development and maintenance of the areas. An area which has to deal with decay because of these issues is Brielse Meer. No money is available for improvements in the area and solutions are expected to be found in enhanced participation with entrepreneurs and citizens. The problem is however that the recreatieschap of Brielse Meer does not know what possibilities there are for participation and how to support this.

Further decrease of possibilities for recreation might lead to negative health consequences, degradation of natural landscapes and economic losses in the leisure industry in the area. Finding a solution for Brielse Meer is therefore necessary. Because the issue is quite new for the recreational sector, in literature not many has been written with respect to participation in the recreational sector in the Netherlands. This research offers a small contribution to the scientific debate about participation (in recreational areas) and may encourage others scientists to further study this phenomenon.

#### Goal

In the end, the main goal of this research is to contribute to knowledge about participation in a concrete context to assist recreatieschap Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg in their strategy to enhance participation in Brielse Meer by examining what citizens and entrepreneurs would like to- or can dowith respect to public participation.

#### Method

Because Brielse Meer is a large recreational area including many different actors and a complex organization structure, a quantitative single case study is conducted. The presence of the many involved actors made is possible to more intensively explore the differences between their intentions to participate. The complexity of the location makes it however not possible to generalize the results of this study for other areas.

A survey, based on the Theory of Planned Behaviour (Ajzen, 1991), has been conducted to approach as many as possible persons involved in the area. People have been approached face-to-face and via email to fill out the online survey. Additionally, interviews have been held to obtain additional information when necessary. Respondents have been divided into three groups of actors, namely entrepreneurs, visitors and members of associations. Their results have been analyzed by means of a regression analysis.

#### Results

Brielse Meer is owned by the Recreatieschap Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg, which is managed by deputees of six municipalites and the province. They together are the decisive power behind six recreational areas around Rotterdam. The maintenance and other daily activities of the recreatieschap are however executed by the Groenservice Zuid-Holland, which is an executive organization of the Province Zuid-Holland.

At the moment, the recreatieschap would like to improve the quality of their recreational areas, but does not give priority to the area of Brielse Meer. The only way in which the decay in the area can be countered is by increasing participation in the area. However, no concrete strategies or plans have been set up to encourage this. At the moment, the organization randomly tries to increase communication with partners in the area and extra efforts have been done to inform people about

the budget cuts and to give them a voice in the process. Structural partnerships are not yet formed, but the organization is making progress.

From the sight of citizens and entrepreneurs, it can be said that involvement in the area is already present. Action groups are fighting against the budget cuts and people are regularly taking own initiatives to improve the quality of the area. At the moment it seems like visitors are the least active in participation activities, while entrepreneurs participate more often. Resulting from the survey can be said that there are possibilities to increase the level of participation in the area. People are especially willing to give their opinion, to advice the management, to pay for facilities and especially members of association seem to be willing to volunteer.

From the regression analysis can be concluded that intentions to participate in general significantly increase when for example family members, friends or members of their association are also willing to participate. Besides, intentions seem to increase when participation offers people fun, satisfaction or new experiences, which is especially the case among members of associations. This indicates that the social aspects of participation are important contributors and it is recommended to organize participation in groups of already socially connected people.

Moreover, participation can be increased by taking away barriers by showing participation does not have to cost too many time or money. Also raising awareness about the issue and literally asking people to participate is likely to increase peoples intentions to participate.

Another point which is probably helpful to be overcome is that fact that many people do not know the organization of GZH or the recreatieschap well, or do not know the difference between the two organizations.

Moreover, among the people who do know the organization(s) trust seems to be low. People complain about the felt distance between them and the organizations, and about the slow decision making processes. They blame the complex organization structure to cause difficulties in cooperation. Both organizations are therefore recommended to more timely respond to initiatives to recover trust and to make the most of participation.

Another problem with respect to participation does not lie in the fact that citizens and entrepreneurs do not feel involved, but instead is caused by the fact that they are often not willing to take responsibility for the area. The area for decades has been managed by the government and people do not see why they should take responsibility themselves. This lack of responsibility is besides likely to be caused by peoples dissatisfaction and by unfulfilled promises of the government in the past. This responsibility problem asks for a paradigm shift and is likely to be a hard challenge for the GZH and the recreatieschap.

# **Content**

LIST	r of Figures and Tables	VIII
1.	Introduction	1
1.1	Background	
	1.1.1 From government to governance	
	1.1.2 Influence on environmental policies	
	1.1.3 The issues of Recreatieschap Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg related to the trends and d	
1.2	Research objective	4
1.3	Societal relevance	4
1.4	Scientific relevance	5
1.5	•	
1.6		
1.7	Research questions	6
2.	THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK	8
2.1		
2.2		
2.3		
2.4	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
2.5	Factors influencing behaviour towards participation	11
2.6	Conceptual model	14
3.	METHODOLOGY	17
3.1	Introduction	17
3.2	Case study	17
3.3	Data Collection	17
	3.3.1 Quantitative survey and sample	17
	3.3.2 Reliability of the sample	
	3.3.3 Qualitative interviews	
	3.3.4 Literature	
3.4	Data analysis	21
4.	THE AREA OF BRIELSE MEER	22
4.1		
4.2	Characteristics of the area	22
4.3	Problems in the area	23
5.	RECREATIESCHAP VOORNE-PUTTEN-ROZENBURG	25
5.1	Introduction	25
5.2	The organization of recreatieschap VPR	25
5.3	The role of the involved municipalities	26
5.4	The role of the province Zuid-Holland	26
5.5	The role of the Groenservice Zuid-Holland	27
5.6	Aims and goals: suggested transformations for Brielse Meer	27
5.7	Conclusion	29
6.	CURRENT PARTICIPATION	30
6.1	Introduction	30
6.2		
6.3		
	6.3.1 Results of the survey	
6.4		
7	INTENTIONS TO PARTICIPATE	37

7.1	Introduction	3
7.2	Intentions to participate	3
7.3	Intention to financially support the Brielse Meer	
,	7.3.1 Mooring fee	
	7.3.2 Voluntary fee	
7.4	Conclusion	4
8. F	REGRESSION ANALYSIS	4
8.1	Introduction	4
8.2	Data preparation and modification	4
8.3	Overall results statistic analysis	4.
	8.3.1 Testing goodness of data	4
	8.3.2 Explorative factor analysis	
	8.3.3 Data reduction	
	8.3.4 Correlations between the variables	
0.4	8.3.5 Stepwise regression	
8.4	Results statistic analysis visitors	
	8.4.1 Testing goodness of data	
	8.4.2 Explorative factor analysis	
	8.4.4 Stepwise regression	
8.5	Results statistic analysis members of associations	
0.0	8.5.1 Testing goodness of data	
	8.5.2 Explorative factor analysis	
	8.5.3 Correlations between variables	
	8.5.4 Stepwise regression	5.
8.6	Conclusions	5.
9. 9	Supporting factors	53
9.1	Introduction	5
9.2	Behavioural beliefs	5.
9.3	Motivations to comply	
9.4	Problem recognition	55
9.5	Trust in the organization	50
9.6	Conclusion	
10.	LIMITING FACTORS	59
10.1	Introduction	
10.2	Control beliefs	5
10.3	Conclusion	6.
11.	Additional results	62
11.1	Introduction	6.
11.2	Normative beliefs	
11.3	Expected outcomes	62
11.4	Additional comments of respondents	6.
11.5	Conclusion	64
12.	DISCUSSION, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: WHAT IS THE CHALLENGE?	6!
12.1	Introduction	6.
12.2	Retrospective and reflection on the methodology	
12.3	Conclusions and recommendations	65
REFLEC	CTION	69
Refer	ENCES	70
		<b>-</b>
APPEN	IDICES	

Appendix 2: Network theory	<i>75</i>
Appendix 3: General statistic analysis	78
Appendix 4: Statistic analysis visitors	81
Appendix 5: Statistic analysis members of associations	
Appendix 6: Behavioural beliefs	86
Appendix 7: Problem recognition	
Appendix 8: Trust	87
Appendix 9: Normative beliefs	88
Appendix 10: Questionnaire Brielse Meer	

# **List of Figures and Tables**

Figure 1: Triangle of Brandsen, Putters and Van de Donk (2005)	2
Figure 2: Position of recreatieschap VPR within the triangle of Brandsen et al. (2005)	
Figure 3: Research model	
Figure 4: Research model and -questions	
Figure 5: Participation ladder of Arnstein (1969)	
Figure 6: Theory of Planned Behaviour (Ajzen, 1991)	
Figure 7: Research hypothesis	
Figure 8: Brielse Meer area	
Figure 9: Brielse Meer on a sunny day (Recreatieschap VPR, 2012)	
Figure 10: Organogram recreatieschap Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg	
Figure 11: Old toilet facility	
Figure 12: Route-bonded visitors in the Brielse Meer area	
Figure 13: Hospitality 'De Ko' with its playground	33
Figure 14: Current participation among citizens (in %)	
Figure 15: Indication of participation of GZH, respectively citizens on the participation ladder	
Figure 16: Stay informed (in %)	
Figure 17: Giving opinion (in %)	
Figure 18: Giving advice (in %)	
Figure 19: Voluntary activities maintenance (in %)	
Figure 20: Voluntary activities administration (in %)	
Figure 21: Material support (in %)	
Figure 22: Greater responsibilities (in %)	
Figure 23: Plan-/vision creation (in %)	
Figure 24: Taking own initiatives (in %)	
Figure 25: No involvement at all (in %)	
Figure 26: Current participation vs. future participation (in %)	40
Figure 27: Mooring fee (in %)	41
Figure 28: Voluntary fee (in%)	42
Figure 29: Hypothesis	44
Figure 30: Adapted model all respondents	48
Figure 31: Adapted model visitors	50
Figure 32: Adapted model members of associations	51
Figure 33: Contributions to quality improvements of Brielse Meer satisfies me (in %)	53
Figure 34: Contributing to quality improvements of Brielse Meer is a good way to be active in a so	ocial way
(in %)	53
Figure 35: Family members (in %)	54
Figure 36: Friends (in %)	54
Figure 37: Members of (sports-) associations (in %)	54
Figure 38: Opinion depends on behaviour of others (in %)	55
Figure 39: GZH is an organization I trust (in %)	56
Figure 40: GZH does what it can to improve the quality of the area (in %)	56
Figure 41: GZH takes me serious when I complain or do suggestions (in %)	57
Figure 42: GZH pays attention to interests of other parties (in %)	57
Figure 43: No time (in %)	59
Figure 44: No involvement (in %)	59
Figure 45: Distance (in %)	59
Figure 46: Physical limitations (in %)	60
Figure 47: Do not know how (in %)	60
Figure 48: Not sufficient financial means (in %)	
Figure 49: Not sufficient knowledge/ experience (in %)	61
Figure 50: Never been asked (in %)	61
Figure 51: Cooperation will not offer benefits	63
Figure 52: I depend on others for a problem solution (in %)	63

11
15
19
23
32
45
46
47
49
49
50

#### 1. Introduction

#### 1.1 Background

#### 1.1.1 From government to governance

In the Netherlands, and in many other European countries, a transformation is going on in the relations between the government, civil society and the market. It often has been mentioned that a transition takes place from 'government' to 'governance', which points at the increased involvement of civil society and the market in policy processes (Van Dam, During, & Salverda, 2008; Stobbelaar, 2012).

Since the first housing act of 1901, the government has played a crucial role in planning processes inand outside the cities. Over the years, processes such as individualization, secularization, decentralization, globalization and enlarged international partnerships have had a crucial impact on the national governance system. These developments diminished the role of the government and gave opportunities for entrepreneurs to increase their role in policy- and decision making processes (Dreijerink, Kruize & Van Kamp, 2008).

Slowly we began to break with the for long time dominating top-down governance structures, which did no longer fit in the current trends and developments (Breeuwsma, 2011; Stobbelaar, 2012). These complex challenges asked for a paradigm change in the governance system. Public dominated plans had to give way to public frameworks in which not only governments but also private actors could invest in (spatial) plans (De Zeeuw, 2007).

In previous years, the national government has put more responsibility into the hands of lower governments, the market and the citizens. The 'Wet Ruimtelijke Ordening' (WRO), a plan in which the national government fixes rules and regulations with respect to land functions, has for example already gone through several changes. In 2003, the national government transferred the main responsibilities for this task towards the Dutch provinces and municipalities, which left the national government with only a facilitating task (Breeuwsma, 2011).

In scientific literature, these changes and challenges are already described profoundly. For example, Walter Isaacson (2009) argues that we are increasingly living in mega communities in which an intensified collaboration within networks between civil society, the public and private sectors from all over the world can be seen. The mega community model supposes that we need to enhance complex organizational forms of policy making, in order to solve difficult and complex problems within our 'network society'. Within the mega community, there is no such thing as a formal authority which regulates the negotiations and decisions between the actors, but instead all actors have an equal voice and responsibilities in making decisions. Isaacson states that actors therefore should trust- and rely on each other to create a stable social network that can make a difference by the accumulation of social capital.

The model of Brandsen, Putters and Van de Donk (2005), depicted in Figure 1, is based on the triangle of Pestoff (1992) and illustrates the playground for all actors within our society. Within this model, a distinction is made between the public (the government) and the two private sectors (the civil society and the market). The triangle is divided by three lines which characterize the three domains. The civil society can be characterized as private, informal and non-profit; the market as private, formal and for profit and the state as public, non-profit and formal.

According to Brandsen et al. (2005) within the triangle also other forms of organizations can be found, which do not perfectly fit among one of the labels 'civil society', 'state' or 'market'. These

organizations act in the middle of the triangle and combine public-private, formal-informal and profit and non-profit strategies.

They mix the ideal elements of all three sectors and can also be called the 'hybrid' or 'third' sector. It refers to "heterogeneous arrangements, characterized by mixtures of pure and incongruous origins, (ideal) types, 'cultures,' 'coordination mechanisms', 'rationalities', or 'action logics' " (Brandsen et al., 2005, p. 750). In fact, it is the service-provider for public and private sectors and exists of the co-operations between the three governance systems. Brandsen et al. (2005) state that the term 'third sector' is too hazy and can give problems when it needs to be empirically applied. The heart of the triangle involves several organizations that do not seem to have very much in common. Therefore, Brandsen et al. (2005) rather speak of the term 'hybrid sector'.

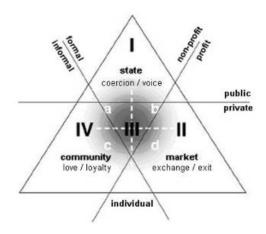


Figure 1: Triangle of Brandsen, Putters and Van de Donk (2005)

The hybrid sector has often been defined by its boundary problems, its messiness and changeability. The triangle shows us the playground in which the state, the citizen and the market interact. In succession of the mentioned governance trends, theoretically this would mean that the 'public/private' line of the triangle is moving upwards because the government gives more room for initiatives and activities of the private sector.

#### 1.1.2 Influence on environmental policies

Another trend speeding up these developments is the financial crisis. The Netherlands have to reduce their public expenses by 18 billion euro during the current parliament's period. This has consequences for all Dutch ministries including the ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food quality. The government estimated the retrenchments for the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food quality at an amount of 340 million euro, which is a reduction of 40% on the current budget. The budget cuts within the ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food quality will lead to further decentralization of environmental tasks to provincial governments and budget cuts on environmental policies and civil services (Dienst Landelijk Gebied, 2011).

Moreover, the government would like to transfer the responsibilities of environmental- and landscape policies to the provincial authorities, while at the same time these authorities have been cut on their finances to fulfil these tasks (Natuur en Milieufederatie Drenthe, 2011a; 2011b). Through decentralization of these tasks, provincial governments receive more responsibilities in shaping policies for recreation and nature conservation (Rijksoverheid, 2011). This means that provincial governments will only be restricted by the relatively general regulations of the European Union and no longer by national laws.

It is obvious that these retrenchments will have consequences for both people and environment. There will not be sufficient financial resources to sustain the quality of existing natural landscapes and related facilities. Possibilities for recreation are likely to decrease; deferred maintenance of footand cycling paths, pick nick facilities in combination with proliferation of plants and trees may lead to unsafe situations and in the end to closure of recreational zones and/or natural landscapes. Other negative effects likely to appear are damage to the leisure economy and negative consequences for people's health. Moreover, when financial resources are reduced, many actors fear that natural landscapes will become more unilateral which again means loss of local identity and biodiversity (Natuur en Milieufederatie Drenthe, 2011a; 2011b; Provincie Noord-Holland, 2011). If provincial

governments do no longer have the resources to maintain natural landscapes such as recreational areas and public green spaces as forests and water districts, a solution should be found for these problems.

# 1.1.3 The issues of Recreatieschap Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg related to the trends and developments

An organization dealing with the mentioned problems caused by the retrenchments is Recreatieschap Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg. The Recreatieschap exists of a cooperation between six municipalities, the Province and Groenservice Zuid-Holland [GZH] and is the governing body of six recreational areas covering 1200 hectares of recreational facilities in the province of Zuid-Holland (Recreatieschap Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg, 2000). The recreatieschap takes care of the development and aims at providing sufficient qualitative and quantitative recreational spaces for a broad range of people living in the (sub-) urban regions in and around Rotterdam.

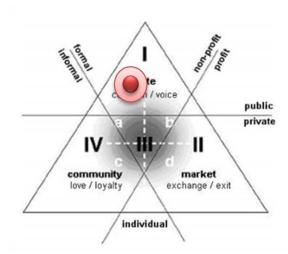


Figure 2: Position of recreatieschap VPR within the triangle of Brandsen et al. (2005)

Recreatieschap VPR is a public, formal, non-profit organization that acts according to common interests. The organization can be found within the upper 'state' domain of the triangle of Brandsen, Putters and Van de Donk. The recreaties chap is not an organization that can be found in the third sector, because formally only governmental institutions and members of municipalities and provinces cooperate in the recreatieschap. Other organizations, entrepreneurs and citizens can be partners, but will not have a final say in their decision-making processes. In Figure 2 can be seen where the Recreatieschap VPR can be placed in the triangle. The red dot has been placed on the left of the centre because the mission of the recreatieschap

is to create an optimal recreational environment for the community. This is not to say that the market cannot be an important partner in this, but it is not main focus of the recreatieschap.

Recreatieschap Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg is actively searching for ways in which they can maintain, manage and improve their recreational areas in a sustainable way.

They would like to find a solution in enhancing participation with other parties in order to share costs and benefits. One of the areas in which they would like to actively involve entrepreneurs and citizens in the development of their recreational spaces is Brielse Meer.

The recreatieschap would like to know what the best way would be to involve actors in the management of the area and at the same time to improve the quality of the landscape for the people involved. They would like to see that the natural landscape becomes a co-production between the civil society, the market and the state. People can for example be involved in landscape activities by obtaining a role as voter, co-thinker, - co decision maker, co-financer, volunteer or consumer (Van Dam et al, 2008). The more cooperation with the market and citizens, the more the position of the recreatieschap will shift downwards to the public-private borderline within the triangle of Brandsen et al. (2005).

In order to find solutions with regard to these issues of Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg, there is need for insights in the best possible way to enable and support entrepreneurs and citizens to be somehow involved in the management and conservation of recreational areas. By knowing if people are willing and able to participate in activities with respect to recreational areas, Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg

might find a suitable solution to maintain or improve the quality of Brielse Meer in accordance with public desires with less governmental efforts and money involved.

#### 1.2 Research objective

The prospective retrenchments are changing the role of the government in the management of recreational areas. Recreatieschap Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg is wondering if there are opportunities for the involvement of civil society and private firms in the management of the area Brielse Meer in order to create sustainable cooperation with respect to developments in recreational areas. It is crucial for them to know whether visitors and entrepreneurs are willing and able to participate in projects that for long time have been managed by institutions of the national governments. By knowing if visitors and entrepreneurs are willing and able to take part in management processes, they hope to find ways in which they can support people to participate. The recreatieschap hopes to find a way to overcome budget problems, to prevent the areas from decay and at the same time attune their areas to the wishes of the actors involved.

As been said, there is need for insights in motives and thresholds of both civil society and the market to participate in these projects. Knowledge about these subjects can help to find the optimal way in which the recreatieschap should design the management of their areas by giving more responsibilities to citizens and entrepreneurs. The creation of a partnership may give advantages for the recreatieschap and other actors in the region.

In the end, the main research goal of this thesis is:

"Contributing to knowledge about participation in a concrete context to assist
Recreatieschap Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg in their strategy to enhance participation in
Brielse Meer by examining what citizens and entrepreneurs would like to- or can do with
respect to public participation."

#### 1.3 Societal relevance

The retrenchments for nature conservation and recreation have received a lot attention. Every recreational area and conserved natural landscape in the Netherlands will probably be affected by the retrenchments. Several institutions such as Staatsbosbeheer, recreatieschappen, and Natuurmonumenten have protested against the budget cuts. They argue that the budget cuts are a 'degradation policy' for natural landscapes (ANP, 2011).

Politician Bleker who suggested the hard retrenchments received lots of critique from both national and international institutions. As a protest the Partij voor de Dieren organized a campaign to show their dissatisfaction by calling for citizens to buy and plant a tree as a symbol of their protest (Partij voor de Dieren, 2011). Within three days after the start, already 10.000 trees had been sold. This already gives an indication of the relevance for the society and their personal interest in the issues. What makes the issue so important for the Dutch society is the fact that environmental organizations fear the landscape will become less attractive for people who regularly enjoy nature. The value of nature can be found in its positive effects on the living environment and people's appreciation of having nature in and around their surroundings.

A few studies have pointed at the positive effects of nature on the society. It has been stated that nature in and around our living environment leads to a better health. It improves air quality, reduces stress and obesity and is helpful for children's social development (Van den Berg & De Vries, 2000;

Groen en de stad, 2009). Besides, nature brings people together and is able to improve the social cohesion. Nature also has an influence on economic aspects such as the attractiveness of specific locations and increases the value of houses with 5% (Groen en de stad, 2009).

Moreover, ANWB (2009) states that natural and recreational spaces become even more important in the future, because more people are living in agglomerated areas. The 'use value' of these areas is growing and recreational spaces are more often used as meeting point, for leisure activities and for individual relaxation.

The budget cuts can thus cause degradation of the natural landscapes, health issues, economic losses in the areas, such as loss of jobs and income in the leisure sectors. The budget cuts are no longer subject to change. The maintenance of the quality and quantity of the areas of Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg is of crucial importance for the people living in the (sub-) urban areas of Rotterdam. It looks like institutions like recreatieschappen have no other choice than drastically reduce their cost and to find solutions within participation.

#### 1.4 Scientific relevance

In scientific literature, a lot has been written about recreational developments, governance and public-private relationships in the Netherlands and elsewhere. However, not much has been written with respect to partnerships between the government and other parties involved in outdoor recreation. In many other countries, development in recreational areas is already regulated by public-private partnerships, but in the Netherlands it is not a common appearance (Bergmans, 2010; Chess & Purcell, 1999). The government has regulated recreational areas for decades; therefore not much scientific knowledge exists about recreational public-private partnerships within the Dutch society and governance systems. Because there was simply no need for participation and partnerships, the subject remained relatively understudied.

This research will be a small contribution to the scientific debate about the theory on public participation in the Netherlands. The insights provided in this study will only be applicable to the specific situation of Brielse Meer and cannot be used to make statements or projections for other regions or recreational areas. The outcomes of this study will be context dependent and recreatieschap VPN can therefore only use these insights at best to do suggestions with respect to participation questions in other areas.

The study may encourage other scientists to further study the possibilities, impossibilities, strengths and weaknesses with respect to participation within the recreational sector which makes it possible for researchers and professionals to make decisions on a scientifically agreed theory in the future.

To create the bridge between the societal and scientific relevance, the findings of this research may be relevant for all types of actors such as non-governmental institutions, private companies and citizens. Within all kind of sectors, it can be useful to see how partnerships can be successful in reaching common goals. Especially for recreatieschappen as VPR, it will be useful to receive insights in how they can change their role in recreational areas if they are grounded on reliable studies and knowledge. The results of this research will give them a preview on the ability and willingness of citizens and entrepreneurs to participate and gives them insights in the possibilities for policy developments. It can encourage ways in which participation in practice or in theory should be (re)shaped. By knowing the advantages, disadvantages, strengths and weaknesses, actors will be better equipped to make deliberate decisions about whether it can be useful to apply participation in practice. This, in the end, can lead to better implementations that can lead better health, economic, social and ecological effects in practice and sustainable cost reductions for the future.

#### 1.5 Relevance for the internship organization

The internship organization Bureau Buiten is a consultancy organization operating in the field of urban and regional development, tourism, recreation and cultural heritage. In 2011, they published a booklet 'De stad uit, het groen in' in which they show how users of recreational areas, governments and entrepreneurs can commonly care for the attractiveness of their leisure environment. Many new and innovative plans of entrepreneurs are depicted to give the readers an idea about what possibilities exist for space for leisure in the Netherlands in the future. This research can bring new knowledge into the field of partnerships in the recreational sector. Studying a practical case in the Netherlands can make the examples of the booklet more concrete and will help Bureau Buiten to see what problems should be overcome with regard to these partnerships. By having insights in this specific case, Bureau Buiten hopes to be able to convince their partners that participation is not only theoretically useful, but also of practical relevance.

#### 1.6 Research model

In Figure 3 a schematic overview is presented showing the steps taken to reach the goal of this research.



Figure 3: Research model

First of all is explored what the current situation is with respect to the management of Brielse Meer in order to be able to do suggestions for change in the future. This current situation has been explored by asking the management of Brielse Meer, visitors and entrepreneurs. Also the aims of the organization and their strategy to reach their goals for the future of Brielse Meer should be made clear. This will explain the desired situation for Brielse Meer of the organization. Information about these aspects has been obtained from recreatieschap VPR.

Secondly, has been studied to what extent entrepreneurs and citizens are willing and able to contribute to the development and management of Brielse Meer.

In the end, will be concluded what possibilities there are to increase participation among citizens and entrepreneurs in the area of Brielse Meer and how VPR best can shape the participation processes to reach the desired goals for (participation in) Brielse Meer.

#### 1.7 Research questions

Based on the above mentioned research goal- and research model, the study addresses the following main research question:

"What should the organization of VPR do to increase or support participation among entrepreneurs and citizens within the development and management of Brielse Meer?"

The main question of this research is answered with the help of the following empirical subquestions:

- 1. How does Recreatieschap Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg manage the area of Brielse Meer at the moment?
- 2. What are the aims of Recreatieschap Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg for the Brielse Meer?
- 3. To what extend does participation already exist within the area? And what parties are already involved in the management of the area?
- 4. What positive or negative attitudes do entrepreneurs and citizens have towards (different types of) participation?
- 5. What are limitations for citizens and entrepreneurs to enlarge their role in the management and development of Brielse Meer?

In the Figure below can be seen how the research model links to the sub questions of this research.

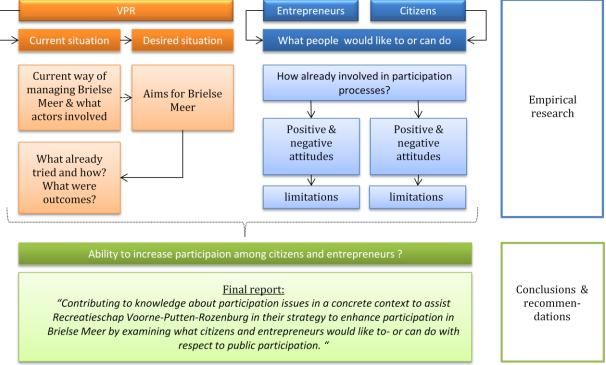


Figure 4: Research model and -questions

### 2. Theoretical framework

#### 2.1 Introduction

In this chapter will be outlined what theories are helpful to explore possibilities for participation within the Brielse Meer. The main theories used for this research are participation, network- and behavioural theories.

#### 2.2 The definition of participation

Within literature, many different terms can be found which, more or less, all indicate concepts of participation. Examples of these terms are 'public participation', 'citizen participation', 'interactive participation' and 'civic engagement'. Within this research, mainly the term 'participation' is used. Before we can explore issues about participation it should first be known what is meant with this term. Definitions of participation are often based on what participation includes or what it should be like according to the authors. They often have been derived from a specific situation from a single municipality or institution in an area. Therefore many definitions exist, which all have their own emphasize on different aspects of participation. This will be illustrated by giving a few existing definitions.

Edelenbos (2000) uses the following definition for participation:

The early involvement of citizens and other stakeholders in the development of policies, in which on a basis of openness and equality, in form of debates problems can be mapped and solutions can be explored which can be of influence in final political decisions (Edelenbos, 2000, p. 37).

This definition emphasizes the notion of cooperation between different actors in a political process by means of giving opinions and taking part in debates. Within this definition, participation is a process initiated by the government and forms a way of increasing democracy by giving people the right to speak. A definition, which resembles the definition of Edelenbos (2000), is the definition of Rowe and Frewer (2004):

Public participation may be defined at a general level as the practice of consulting and involving members of the public in the agenda-setting, decision-making, and policy-forming activities of organizations or institutions responsible for policy development (Rowe & Frewer, 2004).

In some situations, these definitions do not offer enough space for initiatives of citizens themselves. It ignores initiatives of citizens and the active role citizens can have independently from the government. This type of participation in which people initiate their own ideas, is often defined as the 'third generation of citizen participation' (Kylic, 2008). The Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom relations therefore made a distinction between political and social participation (Denters & Van Heffen-Oude Vrielink, 2002). Social participation is about participation in churches, associations, volunteer projects and e.g. informal health care, for which no direct connections exist with the government.

A definition, which overcomes the division between social and political participation, is the definition of Dinjens (2010). Within this definition, participation is about together creating and executing

policies, whether these might be social or political. Within the definition of Dinjens (2010) participation is

"[...] a way of policy making in which citizens (whether organized or unorganized in societal organizations) are directly or indirectly involved in local policies by means of cooperation with respect to development, execution and/or evaluation of policies" (Translated from Dinjens, 2010).

From these examples can already be derived that the term 'participation' is a multi-interpretable one. Often distinctions can be found in 'political' and 'social' participation and in the role given to citizens within the participation process. While for some authors the definition of participation does not include more than people who have been demanded to only have 'a say in something', for other authors it is approached in a much broader sense, including self-organization and dealing with peoples own initiatives.

In this research no distinction will be made between political or social participation, because both forms can be useful in solving the problems of Brielse Meer. The problem of only focusing on political participation is that more practical forms of participation like volunteering or donating, will be ignored. Because Recreatieschap VPR does not know how to stimulate participation and in what form they would like to apply it, this research will be open towards all types and levels of participation to examine what would work best for the Brielse Meer. Therefore, in this research the term 'participation' is used in the broadest sense of the word.

In the next paragraph, different types and levels of participation will be explained with the help of the ladder of Arnstein (1969). Arnstein makes a differentiation between different roles and levels in which participants can be applied.

#### 2.3 Different types and forms of participation

While some institutions only expect participants to give opinions, others expect them to be an active co-creator. The participation ladder of Arnstein (1969) provides different roles participants and governments can take within participation processes (Figure 5). The ladder can be a handhold to show to what extend participation is applied or reflected in a specific situation.

The participation ladder exists of eight steps. In the first and second step of the ladder, no

participation exists for citizens. 'Manipulation' and 'therapy' both describe types of non-participation. The objective of these two steps of the ladder is not to involve people in planning or conduction programs, but to 'educate' the people or to 'cure' them from other viewpoints than viewpoints of the ruling power. These types of 'non-participation' are thus less relevant for this research.

The third step is about 'informing', which is a one-way process from government to participants. In this phase there is still no space for feedback from the citizens. From the fourth level, there is some kind of conversation in the process between the government and citizens. This step is sometimes referred to in literature as the first 'real' step of participation. Step three and four are part of the 'tokenism-phase', in

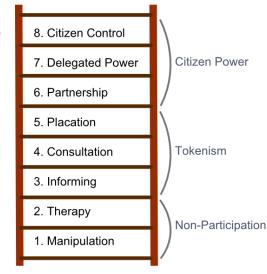


Figure 5: Participation ladder of Arnstein (1969)

which minimal efforts have been done to involve other parties. Within these steps people still lack the power to assure their views and perceptions are really taken into the process. The ruling powers still have the right to make final decisions. From step five the 'second generation' of participation starts. It is about the consultation of specifically selected persons to be involved in the process but again the government still has the power to make final decisions.

The sixth step is about partnerships, in which power is distributed among both participants and authorities. People obtain the chance to negotiate with the ruling powers and to engage in trade-offs (Arnstein, 1969). Step seven involves the transfer of competences to citizens. Participants receive the majority of the 'decision-making-seats'. Step eight is the ultimate form of participation and is about total citizen control in which participants control the policy decisions and the implementation without intervention of the state. This is also called the 'third generation' of participation.

In the debate about the participation ladder, some authors argue that the highest level of participation are the best levels of participation, leading to the most sustainable results (Pretty, 1994; Arnstein, 1969). On the other hand, there are also authors who believe there is no best level of the participation ladder, but rather believe participation is a normative choice. The best level in this case depends on the perspective what the actors think is the best level of participation. For example, the government can think that the best option is to give 'citizen control' to citizens, while at the same time citizens may think the government should take the primary responsibility over a specific task (Jager-Vreugdenhil, 2011).

Because of these different perspectives, government workers and other institutions keep on struggling which participation style is most desirable and practical for a particular situation. Nevertheless, the participation ladder can be a useful handhold to classify different types of action and activities within participation. The different steps of the participation ladders can make it easier to define and examine what stadium of participation will be able to work with, within the situation of Brielse Meer or what level should fit to the abilities or willingness of people to participate. Because the starting point of this research are the issues of Recreatieschap Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg, this ladder will be a good tool to describe the ways in which the recreatieschap currently cooperates with other parties. The ladder will also be used to offer suggestions for participation in the final conclusions and recommendations of the research.

The ladder of Arnstein is however political oriented and does not include more social and practical forms of participation like volunteering or donating. However, these forms can be substantial for organizations like VPR, but are difficult to place on the ladder. Therefore, these activities will in this research be added and included in the step of 'partnership' (see Figure 5).

If we take a look at the participation ladder it is likely that VPR is looking for a type of participation which is located in one of the last steps of the participation ladder. VPR has to deal with financial problems, which may not be solved by means of only vocal participation. In this sense, it is likely that the solution for the problems has to be found in one of the three steps of 'citizen power'. In these three steps more power has been given to the participants and intensified collaboration with several parties becomes crucial.

The scope of this research will not preliminary illuminate different manners of participation but instead will be open to the responses of the different actors in the area. The reason for this is that it is not yet known to what extend people would like to- or are able to- participate.

Table 1: Application of the Participation ladder of Arnstein (1969)

Steps participation ladder Arnstein	Definition Arnstein	Practical examples of implementation
1.Manipulation	no involvement, being manipulated.	Not applicable
2.Therapy	no involvement, being 'cured' or 'educated'.	Not applicable
3.Informing	One-way process, no room for feedback.	Obtaining information via campaigns, social media, television, radio, news letters, face-to-face conversations, internet etc.
4.Consultation	Conversations between citizens and government to unravel opinions. Participants have no final say in processes.	Afterwards or previously giving opinions about processes via surveys, complaint forms, idea box, blogs, reaction forms, face-to-face, (neighbourhood) meetings etc.
5.Placation	Consultation of specifically selected persons Still lack of power to have final say in processes.	Early involvement via debates, surveys, discussion groups, meetings etc.
6.Partnership	Power distributed among both participants and authorities, negotiations within processes.	Taking part in plan-vision creation and other tasks of higher managements, volunteering in physical or administrative tasks, (financial or material support)
7.Delegated power	Transferring competences to participants.	Having responsibility over small (sub-) processes, volunteering etc.
8.Citizen control	Ultimate form of participation. Participants control policy decisions and implementations without intervention of authorities.	Taking and bringing in practice own initiatives.

#### 2.4 Participation and the link with network theory

As a consequence of globalization and the diminishing role for the government, greater importance has been given towards participation and cooperation on varies scales. Researchers (Koppenjan and Klijn, 2004; Bovens, Hart, Van Twist & Rosenthal 2001) argue that these increased forms of participation and cooperation in partnerships create complex patterns which may characterize our society as a 'network society'. It is therefore not strange that participation theory often links with network theories. To keep in mind the characteristics of networks might be helpful within this research. In appendix 2, more intensively will be dealt with network theory.

#### 2.5 Factors influencing behaviour towards participation

To enhance participation in Brielse Meer it is important to know how peoples behaviour with regard to participation can be influenced. For this reason it is important to know what determines the willingness and abilities of people to participate in the activities in the management of Brielse Meer and how Recreatieschap Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg can increase the contributions of citizens and entrepreneurs in the area. The Theory of Planned Behaviour (Ajzen, 1991) is used in varies social and behavioural studies and gives some handholds about what factors may stimulate or thwart participation. The aim of the theory is to predict individual's behaviour by knowing their intentions. The theory explains how intentions to perform behaviour are formed (Bamberg, Fujii, Friman & Gärling, 2011)

The theory shows how intentions to perform behaviour are formed. It is referred to an expectancy value theory since it is based on the assumption that an attitude towards the behaviour is formed by summing the products of the subjective probabilities of occurrence and the positive and negative evaluations of all salient expected consequences of behaviour (Bamberg et al, 2011).

A behavioural intention is according to Ajzen (1991) a by the individual described probability to behave in a certain way. Ajzen (1991) presupposes that behaviour is not determined by subconscious motives and interests. It assumes that humans are rational beings and that they balance

consequences before they actually act in a certain way: it is about making conscious choices. When the individual does not experience barriers they will normally behave according to their intentions (Ajzen 1991). Ajzen suggest that external factors, such as demographic features do not affect individuals behaviour. The theory treats every person as individual which behaviour is always subject to change. Because of this changing nature of behaviour, the outcomes of the theory always differ in different situations, which makes interventions difficult.

#### Attitude towards behaviour

A first indicator to measure peoples intentions is called the 'attitude towards behaviour' (See Figure 6). It exists of two factors namely the behavioural beliefs and evaluation of expected outcomes.

#### Behavioural beliefs

A behavioural belief is the personal subjective estimation of the probability to perform in a certain way. It is the consideration about whether the consequences of specific behaviour will lead to a certain positive or negative outcomes (for them personally). In relation to participation theory, Overbeek et al. (2008) mentioned a few positive outcomes which can persuade people to take part in participation activities. This can for example be the belief that taking part in the activities is fun, or is a good opportunity to meet people, to obtain (exclusive) knowledge and experience or economic advantages. Other reasons to participate in certain processes is that people have a specific problem, which needs to be solved with the help of others (Aarts et al, 2007). These examples indicate that people will have more positive intentions if the consequences of their actions contribute to something positive for the individual (Lowndes, Pratchett and Stoker 2001; 2006).

#### Evaluation of expected outcomes

The second factor is the 'evaluations of expected outcomes', which is in fact the sum of all behavioural beliefs together and the estimation of the positive and negative consequences of behaving in a certain way.

#### **Subjective norms**

A second indicator is the subjective norm, existing of normative beliefs and motivations to comply.

#### Normative beliefs

Normative beliefs are people's conviction that other people expect things from them.

#### Motivation to comply

The level to which this individual feels the obligation to fulfil these normative beliefs or to bring their behaviour in line with internalized self-standards (Bamberg et al, 2011) are called the 'motivations to comply'.

#### Perceived behavioural control

The last indicator is perceived behavioural control existing of control beliefs.

#### Control beliefs

The last factor influencing peoples intentions to behaviour are the 'control beliefs', which suggests that there are external or situational constraints (Bamberg et al., 2011) which limit or restrict people to perform a certain behaviour. These control beliefs do not only affect the intention but also can directly affect the actual behaviour.

To be able to take part in the activities people often need certain resources. If people do not have the necessary resources, these factors will restrain them from behaving in a certain

way. A few of these resources are already mentioned with regard to the network theory in Appendix 2. Koppenjan and Klijn (2004) mentioned resources like production instruments, financial means, competences and knowledge. Also lack of experience (Lowndes, Pratchett and Stoker, 2001; 2006), available time (Overbeek et al, 2008; Hägerstrand, 1982) and physical conditions can be factors which limit people's possibilities to take part in certain activities. The other way around, these examples can also stimulate persons to participate if they do have these instruments and abilities to participate. Another factor which often limits participation is the fact that people often not have been asked to perform in a certain way (Lowndes, Pratchett and Stoker 2001; 2006).

A disadvantage of the theory of planned behaviour is that it might give some problems with the operationalization of the concepts. For example, when people are restricted by their financial situation to participate, it concerns a 'control belief'. In contrast, when people do have the money but are not willing to spend this on participation activities, it becomes a cognitive aspect and then it concerns a behavioural belief. In this sense people value the loss of money as a negative consequence of participation. It is therefore sometime difficult to draw the line between these concepts. Therefore no strict division can be assured between these concepts and both concepts are likely to measure parts of the other.

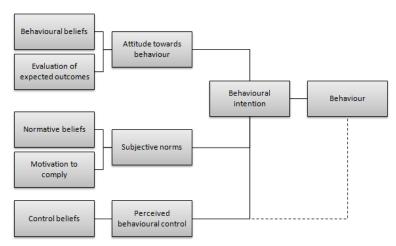


Figure 6: Theory of Planned Behaviour (Ajzen, 1991)

The theory of planned behaviour has besides been critiqued for only including a 'subjective norm', which is determined by pressures of others in the social environment of the individual. However, no attention is paid to the individual aspect. According to the norm-activation theory, there also exists something like a personal norm. This is defined as the 'felt obligation to bring own behaviour in line with important internalized self-standards' (Bamberg et al., 2011, p. 230). Problem awareness is said to be a significant factor influencing this personal norm, especially when it comes to participation issues.

In order to gain support for solutions, a shared problem understanding between society and government is essential. If there are doubts among the public about the cause and interpretation of a problem, there is no base for a problem solution (Translated from Centrum publicksparticipatie, 2012).

Earlier studies (Bamberg, Hunecke & Blöbaum, 2007; Locke & Latham, 2002) showed that problem awareness has an impact on this personal norm and on peoples feelings of responsibility. Motivations to participate are said to be related to the way people make sense of a phenomenon; it has to be part of their priorities (Weick, 1995; Aarts et al., 2007). Problem recognition can besides

serve as a shared feeling of common ground (Aarts et al., 2007). Because the issue of problem recognition seems to be a very relevant issue with regard to participation this concept is therefore added to the hypothesis.

Additionally, literature about participation makes clear that there is another important factor when it entails participation intentions. Trust is said to be an indispensable condition for participation (Coleman, 1988; Hudson, 2006) because participation is about social connectedness and the commitment of individuals with the society (see also appendix 2). According to McLain & Hackmann (1999) trust is the perception or believe that someone can- or is willing to- perform to reach positive outcomes. In this sense 'can' refers to the ability to create positive outcomes, which is determined by peoples skills, competences and knowledge. This can for example be the knowledge to use technology, methods, language, or having the skills to communicate, to collaborate in teams, or to plan and coordinate activities (Nooteboom, 2002). 'Willing' then refers to the 'intentions' of people to take action and to maximally use their competences to reach certain positive outcomes. It's about peoples aims, goodwill, dedication, intentions, and reduction of self-interests (Nooteboom, 2002; Koppenjan en Klijn, 2004).

In this research the factor trust is also added and focus is put on whether people believe the organization has got the intention to participate to reach positive outcomes for common sake. The reason for this is that the main focus of this research lies on participation intentions in general. Besides, it is expected that most people stand to far from the organization to judge their competences.

The mentioned factors of the Theory of Planned Behaviour and the factors problem recognition and trust form together form the hypothesis for this research (see Figure 7). It is explored which of these factors influence peoples intention to participate. Within this research it is, because of the short time period, not possible to explore the actual behaviour of peoples as suggested in the theory of planned behaviour. Within this research only peoples 'behavioural intentions' to participate could therefore be measured.

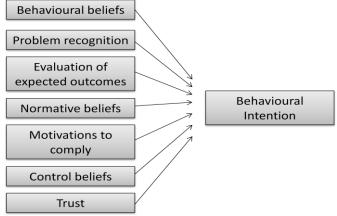


Figure 7: Research hypothesis

#### 2.6 Conceptual model

The conceptual model describes how the main theories and practice of the research come together. The table gives an overview of how the theories can help to answer the research questions.

Table	2:	Conceptua	al mode	I
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Table 2: Conceptual model			
Research questions	Participation ladder	Theory about influencing behavioural intentions	Presented in chapter
1. How does Recreatieschap Voorne- Putten-Rozenburg manage the area of Brielse Meer at the moment?	Not applicable	Not applicable	Chapter 5. § 5.2 tm 5.5
This question functions to provide informations of recreational area Brielse Meer. Charesponsibilities are distributed among the	pter 5 describes how the organiza		
2. What are the aims of Recreatieschap Voorne-Putten- Rozenburg for the Brielse Meer?	Describes how the organization would like to achieve their goals in the area with the help of participation.	Not applicable	Chapter 5 § 5.6
Knowing the aims for the area sheds light organization for the Brielse Meer area. As a quality improvement for the Brielse Meer. would like to involve other parties in order gives insights in how VPR would like to transcent the goals for the area in the near futurent situation and the desired situation	we already know, they would like Because the organization lacks re to realize the goals for Brielse Monsform their strategy and what kirure. Again the participation ladde	to improve participation isources to achieve the greer on a common base. Tond or types of participation can help to define the g	in order to reach bals on their own, they his research question on they have in mind to
3. To what extend does participation already exist within the area? And what parties are involved in the management?	Describes what types of participation in tr participation already have been applied by the organization. Besides, will be shown how people themselves believe to participate.	Not applicable	Chapter 6
This question will serve to demonstrate whimpression of the alternatives for the prob Appendix 2.2.1). It shows the progress of the Besides, chapters 5 &6 describe what actor this part the participation ladder will be use the management of VPR.	lem solution which VPR tried to in the participation process of the org rs are already involved in trying to	mplement (step 1 of the a ganization. o find a problem solution	actor analysis, for the Brielse Meer. In
4. What positive or negative attitudes do entrepreneurs and citizens have towards taking part in (different types of) participation?	The intention to participate is tested for every step of the ladder	Not applicable	Chapter 7, 8 & 9 (and parts of chapter 11)
Exploring people's intentions towards behad handhold for asking people to what extent if people are willing to participate.			
5. Are there limitations for citizens and entrepreneurs to enlarge their role in the management and development of Brielse Meer?	Not applicable	Motivations for peoples intentions are tested with the help of the seven factors influencing peoples intentions to participate.	Chapter 10 (and parts of chapter 11)
The seven factors from Paragraph 2.5 indic participation. The results of the analysis given Knowing limitations and thresholds (and procooperation with the actors. It gives an ide (step 2 actor analysis, Appendix 2.2.1) and entrepreneurs.	ve direction how and where the o positive or negative attitudes) can g a which people can be important	rganization best can sear give an idea about how th (willing or able) to be inv	ch for participants. ney should shape the rolved in participation
Discussion, conclusions and recommendations	Recommendation about the type of participation (and how and what people should be involved in participation activities)	Conclusions factors influencing intention towards participation	Chapter 12

All the outcomes of the other sub-questions will be combined to answer the main question of the study namely: "What should the organization of VPR do to increase or support participation among entrepreneurs and citizens within the development and management of Brielse Meer?"

The conclusion shows what the organization of Brielse Meer should or can do to stimulate participation among citizens and entrepreneurs to improve the quality of Brielse Meer. It shows what factors contribute to a positive or negative intention to participate and what factors can be influenced to increase participation in the area. It gives suggestions where to find participants and about what form of participation is feasible or workable for a specific group of people.

## 3. Methodology

#### 3.1 Introduction

In the previous chapter has been outlined what theory will be used for this research and how and in which parts it will be applied. In this chapter, the methodology of the study will be outlined. It will give an overview on the research methods and techniques used to obtain the answers on the research questions. Also will be explained how data is obtained, selected and analyzed.

#### 3.2 Case study

The research conducted is a single case study. A case study is a helpful strategy because it is a good method to do research towards complex coherent problems which have to be explored within their own context (Baarda, De Goede & Teunissen, 2005). Within this research has been chosen for Brielse Meer as a case study because the area at the moment finds itself in a difficult situation. Brielse Meer is a very large recreational area, with many different actors like governmental institutions, entrepreneurs, associations and visitors having interests in the area. By studying this specific area it was possible to more intensively explore differences between the many factors influencing intentions for participation within different interest groups within the area. This would not have been possible when dealing with a multiple case study. The combination of the many actors, the situation of the recreatieschap and the location of the area make the Brielse Meer unique in its sort. This makes it impossible to draw conclusions for other recreatieschappen. A single case study is therefore a well applicable and logical choice for this research. Although results are not generalizable, this research will be useful for other situations in the sense that it can offer the recreatieschap a first explorative step for bringing in practice participation processes. By using the Brielse Meer as pilot-project they can obtain knowledge and experience in setting up participation processes, which in the future might also be applied to other areas of the recreatieschap. Within this study different types of data will be used. This will be explained in the next paragraph.

#### 3.3 Data Collection

Within this research data is obtained by means of surveys, additional interviews and to a lesser extent in form of literature. The data for this research is very context specific, which makes the use of literature in most cases too general and broad. The survey is the primary resource for this study.

#### 3.3.1 Quantitative survey and sample

In order to answer the research question of this study, a quantitative research is conducted. The main goal of this research is to assist VPR to enhance public participation in the area of Brielse Meer by examining what citizens and entrepreneurs would like to- or can do with respect to public participation. To answer this question it is necessary to obtain information from as many as possible persons who are, one way or another, involved in the area. An important reason for conducting a survey is the fact that a survey makes it possible to reach a large number of research units within a short time period. Aside from offering a broad overview of generally valid statements, the large number of research units offers the possibility to calculate statistical relations (Verschuren & Doorewaard, 2007). A disadvantage of a survey is that it often offers less in-depth insights in specific subjects. This is however not a problem for this research. As said before, the subject of this study has not often been studied by other researchers. Also the organization of VPR stands on the brink of participation processes. This research will therefore be a first exploration into the field of participation in recreational areas and gives a broad overview of their involvement, willingness and abilities to participate.

The survey will be a cross-sectional research. This means that the survey will be conducted at one moment in time for one group of people. Because of the short time period it will not be possible first explore peoples intentions and afterwards compare this with the actual participation levels. This research only explores people's intentions at one moment in time.

The questionnaire exists of multiple-choice questions, which makes it possible to standardize the answers of people. An advantage of this is that it can give a quick overview of the opinions of the numerous actors within the area. Although this survey is quantitative in nature, the questions asked point at subjective opinions about their willingness and ability for participation. A disadvantage of this research method is that it leaves not much space for extensive answers and flexibility in the survey. This is however solved by adding boxes for commentaries into the survey.

A difficulty is that the organization does not know much about the actors. In first instance, it was the idea to investigate participation among entrepreneurs and citizens. During the research, it revealed that citizens better could be divided within two groups namely individuals having interests in the area like visitors and organized interest groups of individuals. Brielse Meer deals with many groups like scouting associations, water sports associations and interest committees. From now on a distinction will be made between three different interest group namely 'visitors', 'entrepreneurs' and 'members of associations' and will explore if there are differences between their willingness to participate and between the factors influencing their behaviour. People who filled out the survey had to choose themselves to which of the groups they belonged. Also a few people said not to belong to one of the groups, for example because they were inhabitants of the area. These results of these respondents are included in the overall results.

#### Selection of respondents among visitors

The actual population for the sample was difficult to determine. Because Brielse Meer does not have entrance gates, it is impossible to determine an exact number of people who visit the Brielse Meer every year. The number of visitors is however estimated at 1.2 million each year. It has been stated by the recreatieschap that the number of repeated visits is very high. The visitor research of 2010 (NRIT Onderzoek, 2010) stated that the average number of visits was 26,4 times a year. This theoretically should mean that the population can roughly be estimated at 45.454 unique visitors each year.

Because the organization of GZH and VPR do not possess a database of visitors, it was not possible to make an a-select sample for this research. Therefore, visitors had to be searched for within the area. On the Whit Sundays, visitors have been asked to fill out the online survey. Respondents have been approached on different locations of the Brielse Meer to enlarge the representativeness of the respondents. A disadvantage of this method was, that people who more often visit the area, had a higher chance to be invited for the survey. This was however inevitable because there was no database accessible. In the end, 160 respondents gave their approval for sending them the survey via email.

#### Selection of respondents among members of associations and entrepreneurs

To approach not only visitors of the area, also entrepreneurs and associations and their members are approached to fill out the survey. These people have been approached with the help of a database of GZH. Because there are not so many associations and entrepreneurs, all have been approached to take part in the survey. In total 15 associations, like scout groups, water sport associations and action committees have been asked to fill out the survey and to forward the survey to their (board) members. In total 49 members of associations completed the survey.

Besides, also 33 entrepreneurs in the area have been invited to join the survey. From the entrepreneurs, 21 took the chance to give their opinion, from which only 13 completely filled out the form. In total 269 people opened the start page of the survey, of which 195 persons fully completed the survey.

Table 3: Response

	Approached	Completed surveys
Visitors of Brielse Meer	160 visitors have been approached by face-to-face contact	116 surveys of visitors and/ or tourist
Members of associations of Brielse Meer	15 associations have been approached by email. The chairman of every association has been asked to send the survey to the members of the organizations.	Resulted in 49 completed surveys of members of associations
Entrepreneurs in- and around the Brielse Meer	33	21
Other	n.a.	20
Total	237	195

#### 3.3.2 Reliability of the sample

The unique number of visitors was roughly estimated at 45.454 in 2010. Within the visitor research no differentiation was made at that time between visitors and members of associations. The estimated visitor number of Brielse meer is thus likely to include both visitors and members of associations. The sample conducted within this research will also include both visitors and members of associations.

Samples normally are conducted with a reliability interval of 95%. This means that the sample for this survey should exist of 381 persons, including both visitors and members of associations. However, for this research a sample has been accomplished of 195, from which 182 may be visitors and/or members of associations.

To check the reliability interval of this research the following formula determines the standard error  $(\sigma_o)$  (Korzilius, 2010):

$$\sigma_{\rho} = \sqrt{\frac{\pi(1-\pi)}{N}} * \sqrt{\frac{N_{\rho}-N}{N_{\rho}-1}}$$

 $N_o$  = Total population

N = Sample population

Assuming a population percentage of 50%, an No of 45.454 and an N of 195, the standard error is

$$0.036882 = \sqrt{\frac{0.25}{183}} * \sqrt{\frac{25945}{45453}}$$

With the help of the Z-formula the reliability interval can be calculated, which ranges from 45-55%; corresponding with an accuracy of 5%:

$$z = \frac{P - \mu_{\rho}}{\sigma_{\rho}}$$

 $\mu_p$  = Population percentage (50% standard used) P = Reliability interval (standardized to 0.55)

 $\sigma_0$  = Standard error

$$1.4 \approx \frac{0.55 - 0.5}{0.036882}$$

A Z-score of 1.40 resembles with a reliability of 83.9%. The measured reliability is lower than the 95% statistical norm. This means that the hardness of the data is lower than statistically desired. The corresponding error margin is 7%. If for example 70% of the people answered positive on a question, it can be assured that between 63%- 77% of the actual population should have answered the same (Korzilius, 2010).

For the group of entrepreneurs no sample has been conducted. They have all been approached and 13 out of 33 have answered the questionnaire. This is a relatively good response score. However, because of the small population the reliability and representativeness can be disputed. Therefore, results of this group should be interpreted carefully.

#### 3.3.3 Qualitative interviews

Qualitative interviews are conducted, first of all, to receive information about the way the area is managed by the organization of Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg. Because the organization of the Brielse Meer is very complex, interviews should provide the necessary background information to conduct the survey. Besides, interviews are held to explore what the aims of the organization are for the area, what they would like to change and what they expect from future participation processes. Preferences, motivations and interests are examined to obtain insights in the way they would like to see participation in the area and what role they would like to appoint to themselves and other actors.

Besides, interviews are held with a few entrepreneurs to explore their relation with the organization and to see what the willingness and abilities of the actors are to participate. These qualitative interviews will give more extended information about the likeliness and conditions for participation in the Brielse Meer. This was necessary because the number of respondents of the group of entrepreneurs was not very high and therefore not statistically reliable. The additional interviews delivered better quality and more in-depth information which could be added to the interpretation of the survey.

Interviews were held face- to-face and were prepared in advance. They consisted of semi-standardized questions. This supported to find answers on the questions which were not yet answered. Because the study needed specific additional information it was necessary to steer the questions towards the preferred answers. Questions were open- ended, which left room for the respondents to answer the questions according to what popped-up in their minds. Afterwards the interviews have been transcribed and analyzed. The use of a voice recorder increased the internal validity of the analysis.

#### 3.3.4 Literature

Literature in this study is used in two ways. First it offered insights in the specific case of Brielse Meer and its most important developments. It gave insights in developments with regard to retrenchments of VPR and showed the impact it will have on the management and development of Brielse Meer. In this sense, literature gave context specific information about the area. Previous research reports

have been used, even as reports with respect to the plans and developments in the area, written by the management of Brielse Meer. Also scripts and agendas of meetings with partners have been studied to obtain insights in the current situation of Brielse Meer. Moreover, also has been sought for reports of external parties like entrepreneurs or governmental organizations about the area of Brielse Meer, to obtain a multi-perspective view on the situation in the area.

On the other hand, literature provided information to create an overview and background of the most relevant trends and developments with regard the research subjects such as governance, public participation and management of recreational areas. In this sense literature has been used as background information and helps to place the developments in Brielse Meer within broader perspectives.

#### 3.4 Data analysis

The data of the survey has been analyzed with the help of SPSS. A regression analysis has been conducted to explore what factors (of the hypothesis, Figure 7) influence the behaviour of the different respondent groups with respect to participation. It explores if there exist a relation between the different variables, which are expected to have a relation with peoples behavioural intention. Besides, in Chapters 9, 10 and 11 a description is given of the results of the survey.

#### 4. The area of Brielse Meer

#### 4.1 Introduction

This chapter is an introduction into the Brielse Meer area. It will give a short introduction of the history, its surroundings, its visitors and the problems with which it has to deal.

#### 4.2 Characteristics of the area

Brielse Meer is a recreational area in Zuid-Holland and is located just beneath the Europoort in Rotterdam. The Brielse Meer has been constructed during half of the 20th century to form the green barrier between the industrial Europoort Area and the countryside of Voorne (Recreatieschap Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg [VPR], 2010). In previous times, Brielse Meer was connected to the Oude Maas. By the creation of a dam in 1953, the areas became land locked which turned the area into a fresh water area suitable for water recreation (Recreatie Zuid-Holland, 2012a; Recreatieschap VPR, 2010). Afterwards, a new foundation 'Recreatieplan Brielse Maas' obtained the task to make the water banks suitable for recreational activities. This had to balance the industrial developments in the Europoort. Within a few years the foundation was turned into a Recreatieschap and widened its scope with regard to recreation (Recreatieschap VPR, 2010).

The Brielse Maas crosses an area of around 10 kilometers and covers over 750 hectares of land. It is located within three municipalities namely Brielle, Westvoorne and Rotterdam. The whole area is free accessible for visitors (Recreatie Zuid-Holland, 2012b). The area can be characterized by its park-like construction on both sides of the banks of the Brielse Maas and is unique in the sense that is offers free water sport facilities (Recreatieschap VPR, 2010). Both sides of the water are covered with sunbathing areas, yacht harbors, beaches, campsites and hospitality facilities. The campsites and yacht harbors are mainly used by seasonal- or year round visitors. The area is suitable for surfing, diving, sailing, swimming and fishing and around the lake walking-, cycling and horse-riding paths can be found. In and around the area of Brielse Meer there are a variety of entrepreneurs which are active in the leisure industry. Besides, a relatively high number of associations can be found in the area varying from sailing – and rowing clubs, scouts and a golf club (Recreatieschap VPR, 2010).



Figure 8: Brielse Meer area

Visitors of Brielse Meer are mainly inhabitants of Rozenburg (15%) and Rotterdam (13%) (see Table 4) (NRIT Onderzoek, 2010). The age of the average visitor in Brielse Meer is compared to other areas of Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg relatively high. Almost one-third of the visitors are 50-plus, while the number of children is smaller compared to the other areas of VPR (NRIT Onderzoek, 2010).

Within the area the number of repeated visits is very high, which means that the visitors know the area well. Main reason to visit the area is to 'go out together'. Other reasons to visit the area are to 'charge the battery' or to have a 'sportive challenge'. The most undertaken activities in the area are tour cycling, swimming and enjoying nature. The majority of the visitors is educated at MBO or Mavo and is of average and higher income groups. According to the visitors, strengths of the area are the location and accessibility, the natural environment and the possibilities for cycling and walking (NRIT Onderzoek, 2010).

Origin of the	Percentage
visitors	
Rozenburg	15%
Rotterdam	13%
Oostvoorne	10%
Hoogvliet	8%
Hellevoetsluis	7%
Schiedam	7%
Other	40%
Total	100%

#### 4.3 Problems in the area

The Brielse Meer is dealing with a few problems for already a longer time. First of all, since a few years the number of visitors is decreasing. While in 2000 still 2 million visits were counted, in 2006 this number has gone down to not more than 1,2 million visits, while the capacity of the Brielse Meer has been estimated at 3 million visits each year (Recreatieschap VPR, 2010). This seems to contradict with the numbers between 2004 and 2006 which showed an average growth of 13% in recreational areas within the Netherlands (Goosen, 2009). Not only the visits on land went down but also the number of yachts at the lake decreased. The number of lock passages at the 'Voornsesluis' went from 15.000 in 2001 to 8.000 in 2011. This can be due to the fact that owners of the yacht are mainly elderly people and not much new-comers can be found within the area (Van der Meer, Personal communication, March 29, 2012).

A first reason for this decline can be found in the outdated design of the area (Recreatieschap VPR, 2010). The park-like construction stems from the 1960's and is not very divers in appearance. The same static patters are systematically repeated and this monotone image does no longer reflect the wishes and needs of current visitors. According to the visitors the facilities on the banks of Brielse Maas are not divers enough and visitors say that to miss facilities in the area. Weaknesses mentioned are the lack of waste bins, rest places, lack of sanitary facilities, hospitality and recreational facilities (NRIT Onderzoek, 2010). On the other hand, the research of NRIT (2010) showed that there is more need for basic ways of recreation such as 'strolling in nature' (Algemeen Bestuur VPR, 2010). The Recreatieschap Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg says visitors more negatively value the area compared to other surrounding recreational areas (Recreatieschap VPR, 2010).

Another problem which comes along with the park-like design of the area is that its vegetation needs intensive maintenance. The design of the area is currently based on so called 'stationary' forms of recreation. These are forms of recreation in which persons stay more or less on one place. You can for example think of swimming, sunbathing or pick nicking; activities that were highly valued in the 1960's (Van der Meer, Personal communication, March 29, 2012).

The many types of grassland for sunbathing need to be mowed many times a year to keep the area structured. Besides, also all the adjacent swimming waters needs to fulfill the criteria of the 'Kaderrichtlijn Water' and facilities as toilets and showers needs to be present (Recreatieschap VPR, 2010).

Although the area is suitable for stationary forms of recreation, developments such as aging in contrary ask for more route-bound forms of recreation such as (nordic-) walking or cycling

(Recreatieschap VPR, 2010; Algemeen Bestuur VPR, 2010). According to the recreatieschap the influence of the aging population is, compared to surrounding areas, especially noticed in the area of Brielse Meer (Algemeen Bestuur VPR, 2010).

A few external problems with which the area is dealing are nuisance of waste dumping, drugs and illegal parking of trucks. Besides, the Brielse Meer has to deal with sex tourism in the area. The study of NRIT (2010) already showed that people would like to see more supervision in the area for safety improvements.



Figure 9: Brielse Meer on a sunny day (Recreatieschap VPR, 2012)

## 5. Recreatieschap Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg

#### 5.1 Introduction

In this chapter, the first and second research question will be answered. It explains how recreatieschap Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg manages the area of Brielse Meer at the moment and besides will show what other parties are involved in the management of the area. To obtain more insights into the history and tasks of the recreatieschappen in general, I would like to refer to Appendix 1. This appendix might help to better understand the current situation of the recreatieschappen and places developments within a broader perspective. From the next paragraph until paragraph 5.5 the organizational structure of the recreatieschap will be explained. Paragraph 5.6 shows the strategy and aims of the organization for the area of Brielse Meer.

#### 5.2 The organization of recreatieschap VPR

Recreational area Brielse Meer is owned and managed by Recreatieschap Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg. Because the organization of the recreatieschap is very complex, it is useful to describe how the organization is composed before we can describe how participation is applied within the organization. In Figure 10 the organogram of the organization can be found. Recreatieschap Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg is an organization which exists of a composition of seven actors namely six municipalities and the province of Zuid-Holland. The organization takes care of the decision making processes with respect to the maintenance and development of over 1,200 hectares of recreational areas namely Bernisse, Badstrand Rockanje, Landtong Rozenburg, Oostvoornse Meer, Slikken van Voorne and Brielse Meer (Recreatie Zuid-Holland, 2012a).

The recreatieschap is split up in a board of directors and an executive committee. The board of directors is a decisive board and has got the responsibility over the financial situation of the recreatieschap. The executive committee prepares the affaires over which the board of directors has to decide. They are besides responsible for the execution of policies and decisions made by the board of directors. The executive committee again cooperates with the Groenservice Zuid-Holland [GZH] which is an executive organization of the province Zuid-Holland. When decisions are made the GZH is directed to manage and maintain the area in a more practical sense. The role of the actors in the area are explained in the next paragraph.

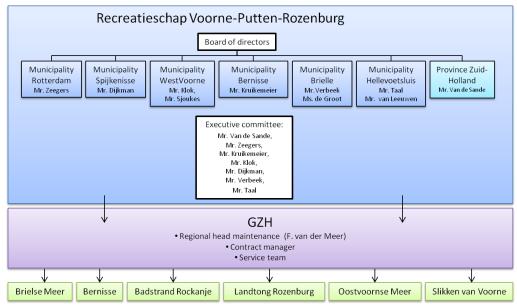


Figure 10: Organogram recreatieschap Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg

#### 5.3 The role of the involved municipalities

The municipalities are active in decision- and policy making processes with respect to the management and development of the recreatieschap. Each of the involved municipalities has got one or two representatives for these tasks in both the board of directors as well as the executive committee. The representatives of the municipalities make decisions within the recreatieschap about the policies, strategies, development and design of the areas.

The municipalities are besides financiers of the recreatieschap. They pay a yearly fee for participating in the recreatieschap. The sum of all participation fees together, which has to be spend on all six areas, amounts 2.6 million Euro each year. Rotterdam takes care of the main part of the budget of the municipalities. This is still a remnant of Rotterdam's recreational policies in the 1960's, when recreational policies were new and highly valued. During these times inhabitants spend their weekends in many of the recreational areas around the cities. Nowadays the number of the visitors went down but still the municipality is willing to support the recreatieschap of Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg with circa 55% of the total of the participation fees. Together the other municipalities take care of 30% of the amount. The municipalities contribute in proportion to their population (Van der Meer, personal communication, March 29, 2012) but all municipalities have an equal say in decisions of the recreatieschap. The main problem with the budget of the recreatieschap is caused by the municipalities who cut back on the participation fees. They believe they should cut back on expenses on recreation, because it involves a 'luxury'.

#### 5.4 The role of the province Zuid-Holland

As can be read in Appendix 1, it is quite unique that the province is still involved in the recreatieschappen of Zuid-Holland. In 1992 the province of Zuid-Holland choose to keep recreation as one of their 'open tasks', which means they chose to take the responsibility themselves over these recreational areas. Until 2010, fourteen out of 57 Zuid-Hollands recreational areas were fully managed and financed by the provincial government. The other 43 recreational areas were divided into nine recreatieschappen. All recreatieschappen in Zuid-Holland were represented by a provincial deputy. This is also still the case for recreatieschap Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg. The role of the province in the recreatieschap is not very different from the municipalities. Even as the

municipalities, the province yearly pays a fee to participate within the recreatieschap. The province is an important co-financier within the recreatieschap and takes care of 15% of this budget. Although the provinces have been cut on their budget for recreation in 2011 by the national government (Zuid-Holland, 2012), it did not directly have an impact on the role of the province within the recreatieschap. The province however believes that the management of recreational areas should be organized more efficient. Within the exploitation of recreational areas, they stand positive against societal and commercial initiatives which do not decrease the accessibility of the areas (Zuid-Holland, 2011). Besides, in the far future it might be possible that the provincial deputy will obtain a more distant role within the processes. Like the national government the province prefer to predominantly have a role in formulating policy frameworks, if possible with a balanced funding (Van der Meer, personal communication, March 29, 2012).

#### 5.5 The role of the Groenservice Zuid-Holland

When decisions and actual plans have been made, the work can begin for Groenservice Zuid-Holland. Groenservice Zuid-Holland is a civil service of the province Zuid-holland, which takes care of 13.000 hectares of green areas of the nature- and recreatieschappen in the whole province of Zuid-Holland. While the recreatieschap makes the decisions, the Groenservice does the execution of the plans of all recreatieschappen in Zuid-Holland and takes care of the financial administration of the recreational areas. Within the areas they are active on the practical side of development, execution and management.

Firstly they are responsible for the project management. They translate development plans of the board of directors and executive committee into practical specifications and make the drawings for the actual design of the area. If necessary, they take initiatives for market research to obtain insights in trends and development in the recreational sector. With the help of these studies they are able to advice the board of directors and executive committee with decisions with regard to development in the areas. When plans are made, they also have the responsibility for the execution of (re-) developments plans and are responsible for the maintenance on vegetation, real estate and recreational facilities, which often is outsourced again to private parties. Moreover, they have to take care of the safety within the area and have to make sure that users obey the rules. Another important task of the GZH is issuing contracts for tenants and taking care of marketing activities for the areas. Moreover, they are responsible for the issuance of permits for events, they inform and advice the boards, make the annual reports for the area and do the preparation of meetings with the executive committee and board of directors. Because GZH is the executive organization, they are first point of contact for visitors and entrepreneurs.

#### 5.6 Aims and goals: suggested transformations for Brielse Meer

As said before, the area of Brielse Meer has been designed to offer qualitative good recreational facilities around the area of Rotterdam in the 1960's. Recreation had to be free of charge and lots of money has been spent to create and maintain the recreational area of Brielse Meer and surrounding areas. Over the years the area has become more or less outdated. Maintenance costs rose which made it impossible to spend money on new developments within the areas.

VPR decided a few years ago to create a new vision for the area and to more commercially exploit the area to obtain revenues for developments. Although decisions were made within the board of directors, no concrete plans were set up to fulfill their goals. In the following years the degradation of the area went on and financial problems only got worse when the financial crisis entered at the end of 2009. Transformation of the areas of VPR became inevitable and drastic changes had to be made to make the recreatieschap financially healthy again. In total, five percent had to be cut on the total

budget of the recreatieschap. However, if they also would like to eliminate the accumulated backlogs of previous years they had to reduce their costs with 40% (Van der Meer, personal communication, March 29, 2012).

Finally on the 16<sup>th</sup> of December 2010, the Recreatieschap took the decision to do something on the worsening situation. A concrete vision and transformation plan for the areas was constructed within the 'Area plans' (Recreatieschap VPR, 2010). The transformation should create a new situation in which the recreational areas of Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg can offer an attractive supply for the current and future visitor against lower costs. New societal developments have been taken into account even as the current demand for recreational activities.

VPR decided only to improve and maintain a high number of facilities in areas with a supra-regional importance. According to VPR, Brielse Meer does not have this supra-regional character and therefore the number of facilities in the Brielse Meer will be reduced to make room for developments in other areas of VPR.

Within the area plan of Brielse Meer, VPR described a few long term directions. In view of the mentioned trends and developments, capacity for stationary activities will be balanced with the current demand for these activities. Practically, this means that a number of the sunbathing areas and beaches, which are not intensively used, have to make room for types of landscapes such as flowered grasslands and untamed areas. This should be beneficial in two ways. On the one hand, this will offer possibilities for new types of activities and a broader public. On the other hand, removing the sunbathing areas will be beneficial because maintenance costs can be reduced. Besides, they would like to better adapt the area to route-bonded activities like cycling and (nordic-) walking. This will be done by improving the infrastructure between other recreational areas. Moreover, new developments in the area will be concentrated around the so called 'hotspots' according to user intensity. These hotspots are located around hospitality facilities and are places were toilets and pick-nick facilities remain to exist. On the long term, the recreatieschap would like to improve the quality of these hotspots by modernizing the surrounding facilities.



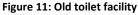




Figure 12: Route-bonded visitors in the Brielse Meer area

However, because of the retrenchments these new developments and quality improvements are not likely to come within a few years. At the moment, only all possible things have been done to reduce the costs of the maintenance in the area. GZH already reduced mowing the lawns, removed waste bins and benches and closed toilet facilities and a few parking lots in the areas. Within a few years, public jetties will be removed when defects and thus safety becomes a problem (Algemeen bestuur VPR, 2010; Van der Meer, personal communication, March 29, 2012) and more parking lots will be closed, even as pieces of walking- and cycling pathways. They hope the forced reduction of public facilities, at the same time makes room for ideas and developments of market oriented enterprises to make the area attractive again, in the sense that it better fits to the needs of the visitors.

VPR and GZH said to be willing to expand the possibilities for entrepreneurs. When facilities can be improved with the help of the entrepreneurs they will bring forward positive feelings with regard to the area and can make the recreational area again attractive for its visitors.

How much they hope to save with participation is not known. Any help to make the area attractive again is welcome. However, no concrete plans or vision have been set up to increase participation.

#### 5.7 Conclusion

Recreatieschap VPR is a organization existing of deputies of six municipalities and one deputy of the province. Together they are the decisive power behind six recreational areas. GZH is the executive organization of the Province Zuid-Holland which is represented in the recreatieschap. They manage and maintain the area. For already a few years, the recreatieschap has to deal with financial issues. These are caused on the one hand by retrenchments of municipalities and on the other hand, because of increased financial backlogs in the maintenance costs of the areas. To make the organization healthy again structural adjustments within the areas are necessary. VPR does not give priority to the situation of the Brielse Meer, which leaves the area in increasing decay. At this moment, GZH may not spend money on quality improvements within the Brielse Meer. The only way to improve the area of the Brielse Meer is to search for external support. Therefore, VPR and GZH would like to know if entrepreneurs and citizens are willing to take a greater a role in activities and developments within the Brielse Meer.

# 6. Current participation

#### 6.1 Introduction

Before we can say something about the way in which the recreatieschap and GZH should enhance involvement of people within their activities in the management and maintenance of the Brielse Meer, it should first be known to what extent they already involve citizens and other organizations within their activities. Within this chapter, the third research question will be answered. Because GZH is the executive organization of the recreatieschap this chapter focuses on what GZH already does to stimulate participation within the management and maintenance of the Brielse Meer. Also is shown in what way citizens and entrepreneurs themselves are already active in the area. The participation activities again are linked to the steps of the participation ladder of Arnstein.

#### 6.2 Initiatives of GZH for participation in the Brielse Meer

Over the years, the Groenservice Zuid-Holland has taken several initiatives to involve citizens and organizations within their activities. This however has not a very long history. Frans van der Meer, regional head maintenance for GZH, located at Brielse Meer, explains that before 2008 the GZH did not have structural contact with entrepreneurs and citizens within Brielse Meer and other areas. All communication with entrepreneurs, organizations and visitors went via GZH's headquarter in Schiedam where all decisions with respect to the activities in Brielse Meer were taken. At that point, there was no active participation between GZH and other parties in the area. Because of the distance between the head quarter and the practical issues in the Brielse Meer this way of working was complex and not always efficient. In 2008 during the reorganization of the GZH decided to give every recreatieschap its own contract manager, which shared the responsibility with the office manager for enforcing the network.

Thereafter GZH firmly invested in enforcing contact with entrepreneurs and organizations within the areas. At long last this resulted in the creation of discussion- and feedback groups with actors in the area. Besides, they do now speak face to face to their relations when for example contracts need to be revised or renewed. If people have questions or would like to discuss things with GZH they can more easily make an appointment with the contract- or regional manager. This is already an improvement compared to the situation before 2008 it this improves options for participation and communication. However, according to mister Van der Meer (Personal communication, March 28, 2012) GZH at the moment still speaks to actors on an irregular basis. A few times a year user dialogs are organized in which they speak with four water sports associations, an owner of a campsite and a hospitality enterprise. GZH became more accessible for their relations in and around the area.

In 2000 and 2010 GZH invested in visitor surveys in Brielse Meer. Main goal of the survey was to find out how visitors valued the area. The surveys were a means to develop the area in a way which fits to visitors needs. Visitors did not have the actual power to change the plans of GZH, but their answers were taken into account in the development programs. So far, no surveys have been conducted among entrepreneurs and associations.

At the moment, GZH does not structurally inform their visitors and relations about their activities. GZH does not have a website or newsletter which specifically informs people about the situation in the Brielse Meer. Only a general website exists of the province of Zuid-Holland which gives general visitor information about their areas. VPR also published touristic flyers with walking and cycling routes. All the information they give, is information within a general sense. It does not tell what, how and when decisions are made.

Since the transformations in the area, GZH has done some extras to inform their visitors, entrepreneurs and associations about the planned changes. They made an information pamphlet and additional press release to announce the transformations in the area. According to miss Noordermeer, park manager of Kruiniger Gors, (Personal communication, 2012, May 21) GZH did fulfill their information obligations with respect to the proposed transformations.

In the first half of May, the recreatieschap organized a meeting for everybody interested in the changes in the area. They informed people about the changes and afterwards gave them the opportunity to speak to them in person and to answer questions individually. At this meeting also the official new blog www.vprverandert.nl was announced. The goal of this blog was to inform people about the practical changes in the area and to give them the opportunity to react, to initiate new ideas and to think along with the recreatieschap. The website was online for one month and can be seen as a form of consultation. The text below shows what happened with the reactions of persons who visited the website.

"After four weeks, we will know better what you think, as user or inhabitant of Brielse Meer, of the changes within the recreational areas of Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg. On this subject a report will be written which will be offered to the daily management of the recreatieschap. They will afterwards take a look at whether other choices, than currently foreseen, can be made. The retrenchments are unfortunately necessary and cannot be reversed" (Translated from www.vprverandert.nl, 2012).

Although the retrenchments are no longer subject to change, the recreatieschap shows with this blog to be willing to give information and to stand open for negotiations and to eventually re-consider the distribution of the budget cuts in the area. The initiative of the blog, the question round at the end of the information evening and the discussions should also lead to acceptance among the actors and should weaken resistance against the proposed developments.

A more practical initiative for quality improvements came from mister Verbeek, councilor of the municipality of Brielle and involved in both the board of directors and executive committee, initiated an operation to clean up the banks of the Brielse Meer. Goal was to take care of a clean recreational environment for all visitors of the Brielse Meer. He invited GZH, SOBM (Stichting Overleg Brielse Meer), the Vrienden van het Brielse Meer and other volunteers to help him. According to all parties, the cleaning action was a success and other initiatives followed.

From the conversations with GZH it was clear that they would like to stimulate participation, but do not exactly know how they can stimulate or facilitate participation among citizens and entrepreneurs. They are exploring this by having individual conversations with their relations. Because of the retrenchments, the issue is however too loaded to discuss these things with bigger groups of people with different interests (Van der Meer, personal communication, March 28, 2012). GZH says to be willing to let go former ways of management and to give some room for less stringent regulations. Something that is sure is that they hope to see that entrepreneurs will take more initiatives. They for example would like to see that entrepreneurs take more responsibility for their own exploitation by painting the jetties, mowing their land or by financing playgrounds near their exploitation. But not much has been done to stimulate this or to discuss this with the concerning persons.

GZH also foresees some problems with respect to the degree of participation in the area. Many actors in the area are associations who often do not have enough financial means to do investments in the area or their exploitation. GZH assumes this can be a threshold for progress and development in the area. It was clear they think entrepreneurs and organizations will offer better chances for development than associations or individual visitors.

In the table below, an overview is made of the activities of GZH, classified within the participation levels of the ladder of Arnstein.

Table 5: Participation initiatives of GZH classified within the participation ladder

Steps of the	Initiatives to support participation of GZH
participation ladder*	
3. Informing	- Flyers for visitors
	- Information meetings with entrepreneurs and visitors (people could give their opinion
	but obtaining opinions was not the main goal of the meetings).
	- Articles in news papers
4. Consultation	- GZH set out surveys among visitors, to adapt their plans to wishes and needs of
	visitors.
	- The blog was introduced to obtain opinions and suggestions for better
	transformations. It will however not stop the budget cuts.
5. Placation	Discussion meetings with SOBM and other entrepreneurs.
6. Partnership	No structural partnership exist at the moment between GZH and other parties within
	the Brielse Meer, however the cleaning operation might be seen as a temporary
	partnership.
7. Delegated power	Not (yet) applicable. The organization did not yet transfer competences and
	responsibilities to citizens, but is looking for possibilities to transfer responsibilities for
	maintenance to users.
8. Citizen control	Not applicable. (Will be dealt with in the next paragraph).

<sup>\*</sup>Note: The first two steps of the ladder of Arnstein (1969) involve forms of non-participation and are therefore left out

Now it is known what GZH already did to involve people within their activities in the Brielse Meer, it will also be important to know how people experience their own participation within the Brielse Meer.

#### 6.3 Initiatives of citizens and entrepreneurs in the Brielse Meer

For already a longer period GZH is in contact with the 'Stichting Overleg Brielse Meer'. This is an official association which takes care of the interests of the connected water sport associations of the Brielse Meer. This organization already exists for more than 20 years and has been set up by entrepreneurs in the area in order to discuss at the start of the season, what all parties expect from each other in a more practical sense. The waterschap and GZH are involved within these discussions.

More recently, the announced transformations gave rise to a few activist groups who generally exist of visitors of the area. The existence of these action groups gives already an indication of the worries and involvement of people with respect to the area. Three discussions already took place between GZH and the different action groups (GZH, 2011; GZH, 2011a). GZH has intensively discussed issues with different activist groups who fear the decreased quality of the Brielse Meer.

One of these groups is a group of nudists who visit the beaches at the north banks of Brielse Meer. These people are not yet united in an official association but said to be willing to set up an association. In this way GZH can speak to the directors of the association instead of speaking to random people of the nudist activists. These people also said to be willing to maintain parts of the nudist area. They are discussing possibilities with GZH at the moment.

A second activist group calls itself 'Friends of the Brielse Meer'. This group exists generally of water sporters in the area who are not connected to an official water sports federation (Van der Meer,

personal communication, March 28, 2012). The association created a website on which they assume to fight for the interests of visitors of in the Brielse Meer. They have been in contact with GZH to convince the GZH they should find other solutions for the retrenchments in the area. Another activist group is the 'Overlegorgaan Brielse Meer Noord'. These people only strive for the maintenance of the jetties and additional facilities in the north part of the Brielse Meer. Collectively the activist groups collected 800 signatures of visitors and gave it to the province in The Hague and besides sent letters to the surrounded municipalities (LimeCreations, 2011).

After the first cleaning operation initiated by the councilor, a comparable cleaning operation was set up by the Brielse Sailing school and the diving school 'Lust 4 Dive' in cooperation with WNF's Project Aware (Lust 4 Dive, 2012). Because of the many applications, they were able to expand the area which they in first instance would like to clean. They did the underwater cleaning of the Brielse Meer, which was according to many visitors a very necessary thing because rubbish often got stuck in screws of boats (Noordermeer, Personal communication, 2012, 21 May).

Moreover, at the end of May there was a meeting between entrepreneurs in the area to explore the possibilities for a new event to give a boost to the image of the Brielse Meer (Noordermeer, Personal communication, 2012, 21 May). Noordermeer believes there are many people in the region who have good ideas about how to improve the area. Noordermeer explained there opportunistic dream of realizing a touristic boulevard which ends at the other side of the Oostvoornse Meer. This should connect the areas with the sea and should make sea yachting possible in both areas. Although she knows that these big plans need more than just the involvement of GZH and the recreatieschap she argues that large scale developments always start with a small idea which has got wide support of actors in the region (Noordermeer, Personal communication, 2012, May 21).

Other smaller plans involve the initiative of for example the owners of the hospitality facility 'De Ko'. They are showing initiatives for improvement of the area. They financed a playground near his exploitation and currently asked the GZH for permission to expand it and to build a pitch and put golf course in the area (Van der Meer, Personal communication, 2012, March 28; Van der Heijden, Personal communication, 2012, May 26). According to Van der Heijden and Noordermeer, they are not the only entrepreneurs having good ideas for quality improvement of the area.



Figure 13: Hospitality 'De Ko' with its playground

From these numerous examples, it might be stated that there are already many people involved in processes and initiatives with regard to the Brielse Meer area. Within the survey also a few questions have been asked to explore to what extent people are involved within activities in the Brielse Meer.

#### 6.3.1 Results of the survey

The survey shows that indeed many people are involved in developments and activities within the Brielse Meer. 56% of all respondents say in one way or another to be involved in any developments

or activities within the Brielse Meer. Questions again have been categorized by taking the participation ladder as a starting point. Figure 14 shows the results of the questions about peoples involved in the activities or developments within Brielse Meer.

When looking at the figure below, something that directly catches the eye, is that most people are involved in activities and developments in the area by means of obtaining information (46%). Other forms of participation leaving more responsibilities to citizens are not yet practiced very much. This was however not the expectation, because GZH does not actively support these types of participation.

The results resemble with the expectations in the sense that clearly can be seen that the involvement of entrepreneurs is much higher than participation of visitors. This is not strange, because entrepreneurs are likely to have financial interests in the developments of the Brielse Meer. Besides, GZH already explained that they generally have more contact with entrepreneurs in the area, than with the actual visitors or members of associations.

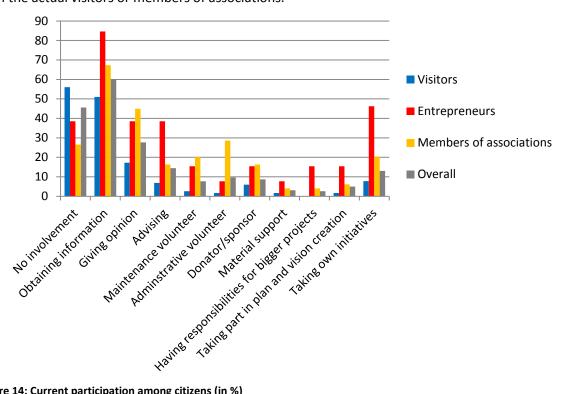


Figure 14: Current participation among citizens (in %)

Less than ten percent of the respondents says to be involved in volunteering, financial or material support. What can be seen is that volunteers are most often part of other associations within the area. The number of volunteers for administrative processes is relatively high for members of associations. Attention should be paid to the fact that this result may be biased by a wrong interpretation of the question. People might have answered this question for doing voluntary activities directly related to their clubs, instead of being active for the quality of Brielse Meer. 29% of the entrepreneurs say totally to be uninvolved in activities and developments within the Brielse Meer. A small part of the entrepreneurs is involved in plan- and vision creation of the organization. Besides, twelve percent of the entrepreneurs says to be responsibility for maintenance of a specific area of the Brielse Meer.

Although the percentage of participation is going down towards the end of the activities, the last two forms of participation are showing a slight increase. Especially entrepreneurs and members of associations say to take and put in practice their own initiatives. This is a surprising result because

the GZH says there are not so much people taking initiatives to realize something within the Brielse Meer. From this may be concluded that the entrepreneurs probably did not have contact with GZH about realizing their initiatives. It is to say that not all entrepreneurs need to have contact with GZH or the recreatieschap because not all entrepreneurs are leaseholders of GZH. They can work independently from the GZH (Noordermeer, Personal communication, 2012, May 21). What the initiatives of the entrepreneurs exactly involve is not known.

Additional ways in which people say to be involved within activities or developments within the area are for example promoting recreational activities; someone says to organize running events and courses in the area and a few visitors say to clean up the mess around toilet- and rest-facilities during their stay in the area.

#### 6.4 Conclusion: Where are we at the participation ladder?

First, should be said that GZH is on their way to improve their participation processes with other parties involved in the area. Before 2008 information to visitors was generally given via touristic flyers and a few surveys were conducted among citizens to obtain insights in their opinions. If people wanted to contact GZH they had to contact the Headquarter in Schiedam. Nowadays contacts of GZH are not very structured, but they made some improvements in previous years, by increasing their information services towards direct relations via discussion groups and by means of appointing a contract manager. This was necessary because of the budget cuts.

The budget cuts led to protests of different interest groups who fear the decreased quality of the area. GZH decided to inform interested persons via information meetings and people had the change to react via the blog of VPR. Also a cleaning operation was organized together with a few organizations. At the moment, the first real partnerships for realizing transfers of maintenance are in progress.

On the side of the citizens, involvement within the Brielse Meer can be said to be relatively good. Many people are aware of the changes in the area and even 12% of the respondents say to take their own initiatives to improve the area (although GZH not seem to be aware of this). Many people care about the area and are seem to be willing to fight against the retrenchments. The first impression is that entrepreneurs and citizens are in general willing to improve the quality of the area. They united themselves in groups, collected signatures, and lobbied in the politics to increase their influence on the organization. They showed to be willing to work together with the councilor to clean up the area and even to organize an additional underwater cleaning operation. Also individuals have shown to clean up the mess individually. According to the interviewed entrepreneurs, there are many good ideas of entrepreneurs in the area to improve the quality of the Brielse Meer.

If we take a look at the participation ladder it can be said that there is no clear demarcation of where GZH stands at the participation ladder. Different types of participation are crossing and overlapping each other, which makes it impossible to appoint one level of participation. However, most activities of GZH take place around the 'information' and 'consultation' levels. GZH took a serious job in explaining users of the Brielse Meer why the retrenchments are necessary. They gave them the opportunity to react and give suggestions for improvement. Since the retrenchments they have proven to be very active on the third and fourth level of the participation ladder. However, on the side of partnerships they are not (yet) very active. At the moment, the organization is busy with the transformations within the organization and in the areas and still no priority is given to facilitating and stimulating intensified partnerships with citizens and entrepreneurs. Participation with other organizations and parties still seems to depend on the initiatives of the other parties, especially of entrepreneurs. This probably also still has to do with the organizational structure of before 2008. GZH was used to operate as a sovereign organization, in which external individuals and organizations

were not involved in policy decisions. Although GZH is right about the fact that entrepreneurs are most willing to participate also organized individuals can form an important player within participation processes.

A gap can be seen between the activities of citizens and entrepreneurs on the ladder. Most people are already active in giving their vision on maintenance and developments within the Brielse Meer, but are less involved in the implementation of these developments. However, they seem again to be active in realizing their own initiatives, sometimes even without intervention of GZH.

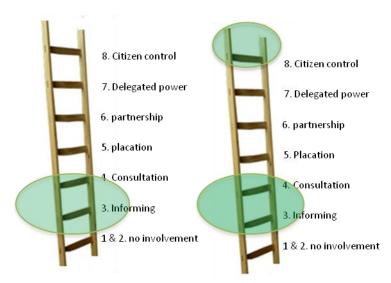


Figure 15: Indication of participation of GZH, respectively citizens on the participation ladder.

# 7. Intentions to participate

#### 7.1 Introduction

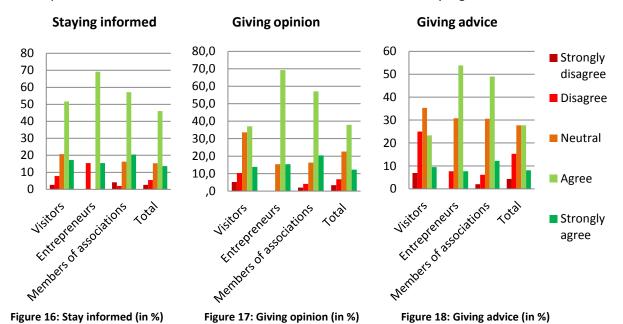
From previous chapters it might be assumed that already many people are involved in the Brielse Meer. Within the survey is tested whether intentions to participate exceed the levels of current participation. Ten questions have been asked to explore if people are likely to participate in activities and developments in the Brielse Meer in the future. These questions corresponded with the levels of the participation ladder. The results of the survey are given below.

#### 7.2 Intentions to participate

What can be seen from Figure 16 is that people, in general, would like to know what is happening in the area. A great majority of the people said to be willing to obtain information and to stay informed about the developments within the area. Especially entrepreneurs and members of associations feel the need to be informed (both over 80%). For visitors the intention is smaller but nevertheless 68 percent of the visitors would like to stay informed.

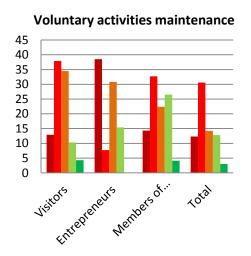
The same is applicable for 'giving opinions' (Figure 17). Again entrepreneurs are most likely to give their opinion on developments and activities within the Brielse meer. It is notable to see that visitors are least likely to give their opinion, they rather stay informed.

Giving advice shows already a shift downwards and a significant increase of peoples 'neutrality'. However, still over 35% of the respondents are willing to advice the organization with respect to developments and activities within the Brielse Meer, which is a relatively high score.



More active ways of participation are substantially less popular. What catches the eye immediately is that red becomes the dominating color within the next two graphs (Figure 19 & Figure 20). People have been asked whether they have the intention to do voluntary activities in the area. A division was made between voluntary activities in the maintenance of the area (like mowing the laws, removing waste or doing small reparations) and voluntary activities in administrative tasks (like minuting, bookkeeping etc.).

A strong difference can be seen between the willingness to do voluntary tasks between the three groups. Especially members of associations are willing to do voluntary activities. In both cases over 25% said to be willing to do so, which is still a very promising outcome. An explanation for this might be found in the fact that associations often managed by volunteers and in general already have a more social character. Because this survey has been send to (board) members and contact persons of associations, it is likely that these people are already familiar with voluntary activities and know what it contains. Especially entrepreneurs strongly disagree to be willing to do voluntary activities, with 38% for both statements. 15% however agreed on both statements. There is thus a clear division between the opinions of the entrepreneurs.



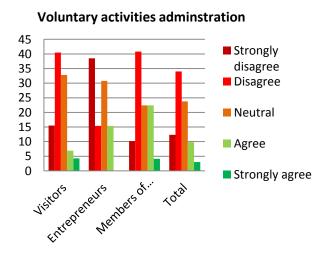


Figure 19: Voluntary activities maintenance (in %)

Figure 20: Voluntary activities administration (in %)

Material support is the least popular of all possibilities for participation (see Figure 21). Only 7% of all respondents are willing to participate by making available material resources to improve the area. Most likely to do this is the group of entrepreneurs with 23.1% against a total score of 6.8%. Visitors are least likely to materially support the organization.

An increase in willingness can be seen at Figure 22. Taking greater responsibilities (like being responsible for maintenance in parts of the area) and being part in decision making seems to be more attractive than material support. Especially among entrepreneurs again an increased intention can be noticed and also 30% of members of associations are willing to take greater responsibilities. However, still a major part (46%) of the respondents says not be willing to take responsibilities in management and decision making processes. Besides, a quarter of the respondents stand neutral against these statements.

Being part of plan- and vision creation within the area of Brielse Meer more positive results. From this might be concluded that people are more likely to interfere in vocal activities than in physical activities. Again the willingness of entrepreneurs is highest, followed by the members of associations.

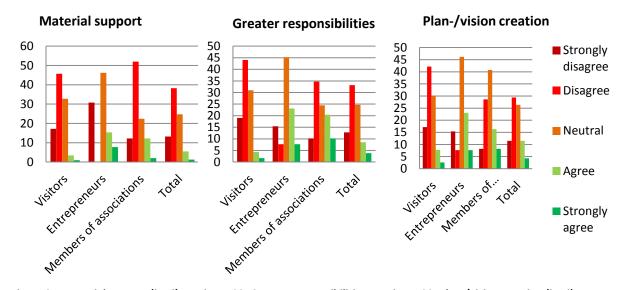


Figure 21: Material support (in %) Figure 22: Greater responsibilities Figure 23: Plan-/vision creation (in %) (in %)

One of the last questions was about the highest step of the participation ladder, about taking own initiatives. What catches the eye in Figure 24 is again a strong division in the opinions of the entrepreneurs. While 38.5% of the entrepreneurs agree to be willing to take their own initiatives, 30.8% disagrees. For this question appears that the majority of the respondents stand neutral against this statement. Visitors are again less willing. In total 15 percent of the respondents says to be willing to take and bring in practice own initiatives.

The last question (Figure 25) was about totally being uninvolved in the activities and developments within Brielse Meer. It is good to see that only 15% of the respondents said to be totally unwilling to be involved anywise within activities within Brielse Meer. Especially, entrepreneurs and members of associations have the intention to be involved in the future. On the other hand, the neutral category is again very high for this question.

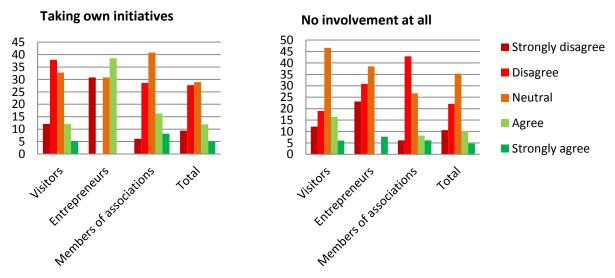


Figure 24: Taking own initiatives (in %)

Figure 25: No involvement at all (in %)

When the willingness of the respondents is compared with the current level of participation, the following graph appears (Figure 26). What can be seen is that almost all the bars of intentions are higher than the bars of current participation, which means that a lot of progress can be made in the

future levels of participation. For the future, more people are willing to advice the organization then currently is the case. The same is applicable for giving opinions. What can be seen from the graph is that GZH did a good job in increasing their information services, because the percentage of people who would like to be informed is currently not higher than the intention to stay informed. A small increase can be made in the future in involving people in voluntary activities. Also the number of people involved in management tasks as contributing to vision- and plan creation and taking responsibility for parts of the area might be increased.

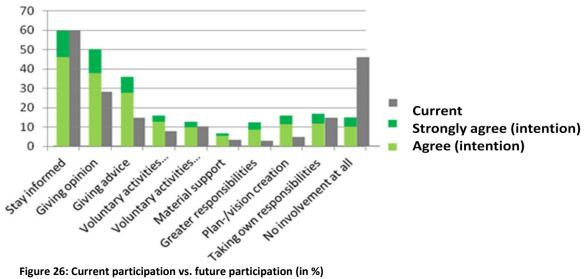


Figure 26: Current participation vs. future participation (in %)

#### 7.3 Intention to financially support the Brielse Meer

One of the solutions for quality improvements which has been portrayed by users of the Brielse Meer within different discussions and meetings, was to introduce a fee for users of the area with which the area can be maintained (Van der Meer, personal communication, march 28, 2012). In this sense the 'user pays the price'- principal will be introduced. Within the survey is, at request of GZH, tested if people agree with this and are willing to financially contribute to the maintenance of the area by means of a mooring- or voluntary fee.

Attention should be paid to the fact that the answers on these questions are likely to be biased because asking people about money is often a precarious issue. Attention should therefore be paid to the fact that people often strategically fill out questions about financial issue in the hope not to pay too much money for their visit to Brielse Meer in the future.

#### 7.3.1 Mooring fee

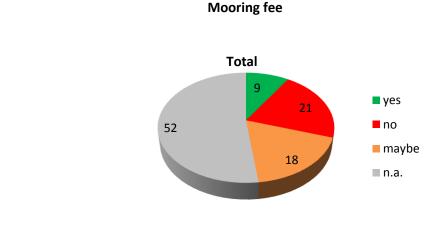
In many other recreational areas in the Netherlands it is a common appearance to pay a mooring fee for the use of jetties. Often this fee is applicable half-year-round during the high-season, because costs for maintenance and cleaning of public jetties cannot fully be covered by obtained taxes. Within the Brielse Meer the ownership of jetties takes in different forms. Most jetties in the area are publicly accessible, which means that visitors do not have to pay for the use of the jetties. Besides, entrepreneurs can have jetties in leasehold from GZH. These jetties might again be rented to visitors. Water sports associations also have the jetties in leasehold. Moreover there are also jetties in the area which belong to yacht harbors which are privately owned. Maintenance of the public- and leasehold jetties is done by GZH.

To maintain the jetties in the future, GZH is thinking about renting out the public jetties. Boat visitors should then purchase a ticket or flag which gives them the rights to moor on the jetties for a specific

time. These forms of additional payments are already implemented in recreatieschap the Grevelingen. People have been asked whether they should be willing to pay for the use of the jetties.

Within this research 48% of the respondents says to make use of the jetties. From the people who do make use of the jetties, 9 percent directly said to be willing to pay an additional fee. Most of the people who said to be likely to pay are members of associations. This is surprising because entrepreneurs and associations often already pay money to the GZH in form of lease for their exploitation or land lease.

Visitors in general do not pay for anything in the area and can make use of the jetties and additional sanitary and waste facilities. Tourists and visitors entering the area by boat can have a costless holiday at Brielse Meer. It was thought that boat visitors would be willing to at least pay a small fee for their activities at the Brielse Meer. This seems however not to be the case. Only two entrepreneurs answered that the use of jetties is applicable to them. The number of respondents is thus too small to do reliable statements about this issue among the entrepreneurs. Although the regulation may obtain additional incomes, the obedience of the regulations again have to be controlled by a specific agency, which again costs money. It should therefore carefully be explored if revenues surpass the costs. Respondents themselves recommended to collect the money at the locks when boats enter the area.



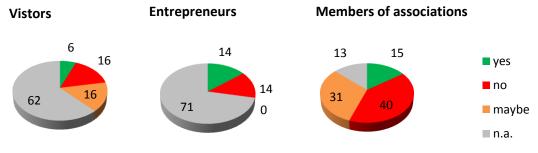


Figure 27: Mooring fee (in %)

#### 7.3.2 Voluntary fee

Within the survey people also have been asked whether they are willing to do a voluntary payment to improve the quality of the Brielse Meer. The number of people directly saying 'yes' is again not very voluminous. The people who are least willing to do a yearly voluntary payment are the members of associations. This is probably because the costs for the use of the area, jetties and exploitations

are already calculated within the personal membership fee they pay. The willingness for entrepreneurs to pay an voluntary fee is a little bit higher than the members of associations, this might be explained by the personal economic benefits they might have if the quality of the area becomes improved. However the number of respondents answering 'maybe' is relatively high, with 42% it offers possibilities.

The average voluntary fee of visitors resulted in an average contribution of 31 Euro a year. 20 and 10 Euro were frequently mentioned values. With a few outliers of 100 euro and even one of 300 Euro it leaves the average at 31 euro. Theoretically this would mean that if 59% of the visitors in the area would pay a voluntary fee of 31 euro, the yearly additional revenues of the organization would be around 2,2 million euro. On the other hand should be taken into account that the people filling out the survey already probably have got a greater interest or feeling with the area, than people who are not willing to take part in the survey.

Among the entrepreneurs and members of associations the average amount is 239 Euro, respectively 38 Euro. However, the average of the nine entrepreneurs answering this question, is highly determined by one extreme of 1500 Euro. Other answers were around 75 Euro. The average of the members of associations has been determined by 26 persons answering this question.

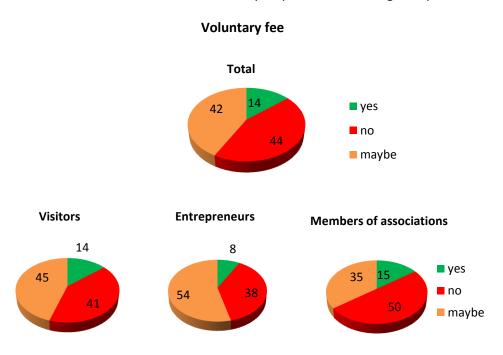


Figure 28: Voluntary fee (in%)

Additionally, the survey gave room for people to give comments on this question. 35 persons took the opportunity to respond. In general, people claim to be willing to give voluntary fees, if the organization fulfils some conditions. Respondents would like to see that paying fees will give them certain 'rights'. Besides, they think it should become transparent where and on what their money is spend. They literally expect to see things in return within the area.

A few times people argued not to be willing to pay additional fees for the Brielse Meer because they 'already pay enough taxes from which the Brielse Meer should be maintained'. Also two persons of a management board of an association say not to be willing to pay because the leasehold of their associations already cost 'lots of money'. One of them adds to this that money first should be spend in a better way. A few other options mentioned are that only the people from 'outside' should pay for recreational facilities.

#### 7.4 Conclusion

What can be concluded in the end, is that there are possibilities for the organization to increase participation with citizens and entrepreneurs. Especially at the lower levels, participation can be increased. People are willing to give opinions and to advice the organization. Because participation is not very actively performed by GZH at the moment, this can be a good start for further increasing participation in the future. Within all forms of participation there are possibilities to increase the levels of participation.

Willingness to participate on almost all levels is highest among entrepreneurs, with the exception for doing voluntary activities. Visitors are least likely to participate. This resembles with what GZH already expected. Overall, only 15% of the respondents says not to be willing to be involved in participation activities at all, which is a relatively low score. Others have a high intention to be informed, to give their opinion or give advice within discussions with the organization. A smaller part of them is even willing to be part of vision- and plan creation, but the intention of people to participate in this is higher than the current level of involved people, which offers potential for the future.

One out of five is willing to do voluntary activities within the area. Being a volunteer is a role that is more reserved for members of associations than for visitors or entrepreneurs. Nevertheless, the intention of people increases again if they can take and/or put in practice their own initiatives. Moreover, entrepreneurs seem to have the greatest intention to participate, but there seems to be a strong division between the willingness of these entrepreneurs. What causes this difference is not known. This might be a suggestion for a follow-up study.

Another result is that within all different types of participation the number of people answering 'neutral' is very high. This may mean that people do not know what is expected from them, or just do not know if they are willing to participate. Because many people stand neutral against many participation activities, the results of what limits or supports them to practice certain behaviour becomes of increasing importance. This knowledge offers handholds for convincing and/or changing their behaviour.

Finally, also financial support is an option which should seriously be considered by the organization. Mooring fees might be considered because more than half of the people who make use of jetties are willing, or may be willing to pay for the use of the jetties. An unexpected result is that visitors are least willing to pay, while they can make free use of all the facilities of the area.

Comments mentioned by entrepreneurs and associations are that already pay money for leasehold of land, exploitation and jetties.

However, still 56% of respondents says, depending on the amount of money, to be willing to pay a voluntary fee. A mentioned precondition is that the organization should make transparent what happens with these fees.

### 8. Regression analysis

#### 8.1 Introduction

Now it is explored what peoples intentions are with respect to participation, it should also be discovered how the organization can influence their intentions to increase participation. In Paragraph 2.5 already is described what factors are assumed to influence peoples behaviour towards participation. The hypothesis forthcoming from this, will be tested with the help of a multiple regression analysis. A regression analysis provides a means to objectively asses the degree and the character of the relationship between the independent variables and the dependent variable (Sekaran & Bougie, 2010). It shows if relationships are positive or negative and if interaction- effects exist between the independent variables.

In Figure 29 again can be seen what variables are expected to contribute to intentions to participate. Within this chapter the model is first tested among all respondents in general, afterwards on visitors and members of associations in specific.

This explores whether there are differences between the factors that influence the different groups

of people. The number of entrepreneurs is unfortunately not big enough to execute a reliable regression analysis. Their results will be described within the descriptive part of this research (Chapters 9, 10 & 11).

The independent variables expected to have an influence on peoples behavioural intention are; behavioural beliefs, evaluation of expected outcomes, problem recognition, normative beliefs, motivations to comply and control beliefs and trust.

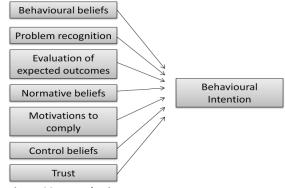


Figure 29: Hypothesis

Based on the model, the regression equation is expected to be:

Behavioural intention=  $a + c_1 * (problem recognition) + c_2 * (behavioural beliefs) + c_3 * (evaluation of expected outcomes) + c_4 * (normative beliefs) + c_5 * (motivations to comply) + c_6 * (behavioural control) + c_7 * (trust)$ 

#### 8.2 Data preparation and modification

Within the survey questions on the variables have been asked with the help of a metric 5-point Likert-scale, in which questions have been ordered from strongly disagree to strongly agree. Appendix 3.1 gives an overview of the variables and their associated items/questions. Before the results of the survey could be used, some data adjustments have been made. First of all, incomplete surveys have been removed, to be able to compare the influence of the independent variables on the dependent variable for these surveys. Deleting these survey will improve the quality of the results.

Secondly, all 'no opinion' answers on questions are changed to missing values. Leaving out these values increases the reliability of the results because the 'no opinion' answers are not able to influence measured averages of opinions.

Thirdly, some items have been reversed within SPSS. While most statements are positively formulated, some are not. To make the data usable for a consistency test they should first become consistent in their measurements. Therefore, the reverse option of SPSS is used (The items which have been reversed are: Q6.9, Q19.1, Q19.3 and Q19.5).

#### 8.3 Overall results statistic analysis

Paragraph 8.3 tests the hypotheses, on the total data set, including all 195 respondents of the survey.

#### 8.3.1 Testing goodness of data

After the data has been prepared, the first step within this research is to explore the internal consistency between the constructs. This can be done with the reliability coefficient of Cronbach. The Chronbach's alpha ( $\alpha$ ) tests to what extend different questions or items determine the same concept. Cronbach's alpha ( $\alpha$ ) is a reliability coefficient that indicates how well the items in a set are positively correlated to one another. Cronbach's alpha is computed in terms of the average intercorrelations among the items measuring the concept" (Sekaran & Bougie, 2010, p. 325). The table below shows the Cronbach's alpha coefficients for all constructs. If the Cronbach's alpha gives an indication of 0.60 or lower, the reliability is considered to be poor. Numbers within a margin of 0,60 and 0,70 are acceptable. A Cronbach's alpha of 0,80 or higher are considered to be good (Sekaran & Bougie, 2010).

Table 6: Cronbach's alpha overall results

Variables	Original number of	Final number of items	Original α	Final α
	items			
Behavioural intention (N=195)	10	10	0,76	0,76
Problem recognition (N=195)	6	4	0,427	0,63
Behavioural beliefs (N=195)	8	8	0,864	0,864
Evaluation of expected outcomes (N=195)	3	2	0.220	-
Normative beliefs (N=195)	5	2	0,278	-
Motivations to comply	5	5	0,91	0,91
(N=123, Others)				
(N=13, entrepreneurs)	2	2	0,469	0,469
Control beliefs (N=195)	8	8	0,588	0,588
Trust (N=101)	5	5	0,892	0,892

If the internal consistency between the items is not high enough, items should be removed to increase the internal consistency. SPSS automatically gives suggestions for increasing the Cronbachs alpha.

First of all, the Cronbach is not sufficient for the variable *problem recognition*. Two items (Q4.1 & Q4.2) have been removed to increase the value of the Cronbach Alpha to 0,63. Also the coefficient for *control beliefs* has a value of 0,588 which indicates that the items are not as internally consistent as was hoped for. It has been suggested to leave out the item on having sufficient time to participate. When removed, the Alpha would increase to 0,611. The difference between the two values is however small and in view of the expected relevance of the item for the willingness to participate, it has been decided to keep this item in the list (Korzilius, 2008).

A difficulty for measuring the Cronbach's Alpha of *motivations to comply* was the fact that only two questions have been asked to entrepreneurs about this variable. The Alpha for these items among entrepreneurs seem to be very low. However, other respondents got comparable, but more questions about motivations to comply which led to high alpha's. Therefore, it is decided to keep the two items of motivations to comply among entrepreneurs in the statistic analysis.

For the two variables *evaluation of expected outcomes* and *normative beliefs* problems appeared. Also by removing items, the Cronbach's Alpha is not likely to increase to a sufficient level. A solution for this might be found in conducting a factor analysis. A factor analysis explores whether there are other relations between the items which might together form a new variable.

#### 8.3.2 Explorative factor analysis

Within an explorative factor analysis can be chosen between a principal component analysis or a factor analysis. Within this research a factor analysis is conducted because within a principal component analysis 'the total variance of the variables can be accounted for by means of its components (or factors), and hence that there is no error variance (Kootstra, 2004, p.4). Factor analysis in contrary does assume error variances which makes the analysis more conservative (Kootstra, 2004).

Afterwards factor rotation is applied, because 'after factor extraction it might be difficult to interpret and name the factors / components on the basis of the factor loadings (Kootstra, 2004)'. For this rotation the standard Varimax method is used.

First has been tested whether the sample is adequate for a factor analysis. The sample is adequate if the value of KMO is greater than 0.5. "Furthermore, SPSS can calculate an anti-image matrix of covariances and correlations. All elements on the diagonal of this matrix should be greater than 0.5 if the sample is adequate (Field, 2000, p. 446)". The adequacy of this sample has been confirmed (see Appendix 3.2).

From the scree-plot (Appendix 3.2) can be concluded that there possibly might be three new factors for the analysis. The additional rotated component matrix ( Table 7) shows that indeed three factors are the result. The items of Factor 1 and 2 do seem to have a relation in the sense that they somehow seem to be related to issues of responsibility and expectations. The factors both have been put in the Cronbach's test. The results were however not promising. The alpha's do not exceed a value of 0,503 (Factor 1) and 0,475 (Factor 2). The item of Factor 3 is also not significantly correlated with behavioural intention. No new variables will be formed, because the items do not seem to be related enough. The analysis will continue without the variables *evaluation of expected outcomes* and *normative beliefs* and the two deleted items of *problem recognition*.

**Table 7: Rotated factor matrix overall** 

		Factor	
	1	2	3
I knew about the changes in the area			
There are enough possibilities to solve the problems			ĺ
I can make a difference in quality improvements in Brielse Meer		,505	ĺ
I depend on others for a problem solution	,468	Ì	Ì
Cooperation with other parties in the area will not offer benefits	,463	-,524	ĺ
GZH is a good partner for cooperation	-,401		
The quality of Brielse Meer is not my responsibility		,664	Î
Brielse Meer has got a bad image			,817
Improving the area is a task of the government	-,659		
A better environment starts at your own			

Extraction Method: Principal Axis Factoring.

Rotation Method: Varimax with Kaiser Normalization.

a. Rotation converged in 6 iterations.

#### 8.3.3 Data reduction

Afterwards, when the Cronbach's alpha confirmed the reliability of the items, one score can be calculated for the items of the different variables (Korzilius, 2008). By measuring the means of the items for each variable, each respondent gets one score for every variable, which again can form the starting point for new calculations. A disadvantage of taking the sum is that missing values will affect the total of the sum, or will not give a sum at all. In the questions about trust and normative beliefs, people had the option to answer 'not applicable' or 'I do not know'. Within the measurements of the averages, these 'not applicable' options have been registered in the measurements as if they were missing values, otherwise they could have an influence on the averages.

#### 8.3.4 Correlations between the variables

Now the correlation will be explored between the different variables with the help of the Pearson correlation matrix. The Pearson correlation matrix is used because the association is expected to be linear and data is obtained in interval levels. The correlation matrix already gives an indication about what the regression model is going to look like. In the table below the outcomes are given of the Spearman correlation test.

**Table 8: Spearman correlation test** 

=		Beh. Int.	Beh. beliefs	Prob. Def.	Mot. comply	Contr. Bel.	Trust
Behavioural	Correlation Coefficient	1,000	,524**	,095	,355**	-,284**	,106
intentions	Sig. (2-tailed)		,000	,185	,000,	,000	,222
	N	195	195	195	181	195	134
Behavioural	Correlation Coefficient	,524**	1,000	,136	,408**	-,237**	,111
beliefs	Sig. (2-tailed)	,000		,058	,000	,001	,200
	N	195	195	195	181	195	134
Problem	Correlation Coefficient	,095	,136	1,000	,174*	,093	-,158
recognition	Sig. (2-tailed)	,185	,058		,019	,196	,069
	N	195	195	195	181	195	134
Motivations	Correlation Coefficient	,355**	,408**	,174*	1,000	,011	,001
to comply	Sig. (2-tailed)	,000	,000	,019		,881	,992
	N	181	181	181	181	181	129
Control beliefs	Correlation Coefficient	-,284**	-,237 <sup>**</sup>	,093	,011	1,000	-,062
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,000	,001	,196	,881		,477
	N	195	195	195	181	195	134
Trust	Correlation Coefficient	,106	,111	-,158	,001	-,062	1,000
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,222	,200	,069	,992	,477	
	N	134	134	134	129	134	134

<sup>\*\*.</sup> Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

The values in the matrix (Table 8) should be read as follows: If the value is 0, it means that there is no correlation between the two variables. -1 says there is a perfect negative correlation, while +1 says there is a perfect positive relation between the variables. The flagged values are significantly correlated, which means that correlation does not exist because of sample coincidence. Behavioural intention significantly correlates with three other variables. Only the correlation of problem recognition and trust are not significant which means that its correlation may rely on coincidence. Behavioural intention correlates most with behavioural beliefs (0,524). The correlation

matrix shows no variables with a value higher than 0,7. This indicates there is no multicollinearity between the variables.

#### 8.3.5 Stepwise regression

Afterwards a stepwise regression analysis is executed. This method looks at what variables do or do not fit within the model and searches for the best model between the many possibilities. The stepwise regression analysis of SPSS (Appendix 3.3), shows that only three of the six variables determine the outcome of peoples behavioural intention. In this case the variables with the highest F-value (lowest significance level) are added to the model. When all significance level of the remaining variables are no longer higher than 0,05 no variables will be added to the model. The outcomes assume that only the *behavioural beliefs*, *motivations to comply*, *behavioural control* contribute to the intention people have towards participation. *Trust* and *problem recognition* have lapsed.

The regression equation for the results of all respondents is:

Behavioural intention= 2,192 + 0,295\* (behavioural beliefs) + 0,269\* (motivations to comply) + -0,297\* (control beliefs)

The standardized Beta-value for the independent variable *behavioural beliefs* is 0,297. This means that if the value of behavioural beliefs increases with one, the behavioural intention will increase on average with 0,297. There is thus a positive relation between the behavioural beliefs and behavioural intentional.

Motivations to comply has the greatest impact on behavioural intentions because its standardized Beta-value is highest. For motivations to comply the Beta-value is 0,327 and for control beliefs -,214. Control beliefs restrict people from participation, this can be seen from the negative Beta-value.

The adjusted R-square of the new model (Figure 30) is 0,331 which means that the model explains 33,1% of the variance of the dependent variable Behavioural beliefs (Appendix 3.3).

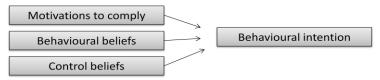


Figure 30: Adapted model all respondents

The same analysis has also been done for the group of visitors and the group of entrepreneurs. Results are given below.

#### 8.4 Results statistic analysis visitors

This paragraph tests the hypotheses, on the data set of only visitors.

#### 8.4.1 Testing goodness of data

The same analysis has been done among visitors. The Cronbach's alpha test resulted again in deleting the two items of the variable *problem recognition* (Q4.1 & Q4.2) (Table 9). Besides, also the Cronbach's alpha of *control beliefs* was too low. When deleting the items of 'time' (Q22.1) and 'I have never been asked' (Q22.8) the Cronbach's alpha will become high enough. However, because both items are likely to have a crucial impact on *behavioural beliefs*, both will remain in the analysis.

Again problems appeared for *evaluation of expected outcomes* and *normative beliefs*. Also for these variables and the deleted items of problem recognition a factor analysis is conducted.

Table 9: Cronbach's alpha visitors

Variables	Original number of items	Final number of items	Original Cronbach's alfa	Final Cronbach's alpha
Behavioural intention	10	10	0,854	0,854
Behavioural beliefs	8	8	0,875	0,875
Problem recognition	5	3	0,402	0,637
Evaluation of expected	5	-	-0,128	-
Normative beliefs	5	-	0,173	-
Motivations to comply	5	5	0,908	0,908
Control beliefs	8	8	0,547	0,547
Trust	5	5	0,844	0,844

#### 8.4.2 Explorative factor analysis

The results of the factor analysis are given below (Table 10). The KMO of this factor analysis results in a value of 0.63, which is not high but adequate for the analysis.

Factor 1 can be interpreted as a variable about expectations of participation. However, the results of the Cronbach's Alpha test is not able to increase above 0,405. The items of factor 2 does not seem to have a logical relation and is therefore not reliable. The items of factor 3 may be related to issues of responsibility, but again the Alpha is not sufficient. The factor analysis did not lead to the addition of new variables.

**Table 10: Rotated factor matrix visitors** 

	Factor		
	1	2	3
Cooperation with other parties in the area will not offer benefits	,422	,497	
I can make a difference in quality improvements in Brielse Meer			,467
I depend on others for a problem solution	,649		
GZH is a good partner for cooperation	-,479		
There are enough possibilities to solve the problems			
The quality of Brielse Meer is not my responsibility			,507
Brielse Meer has got a bad image	,446	,621	
Improving the area is a task of the government	-,471		
A better environment starts at your own	,429		
I knew about the changes in the area			

Extraction Method: Principal Axis Factoring.

Rotation Method: Varimax with Kaiser Normalization.

a. Rotation converged in 6 iterations.

#### 8.4.3 Correlations between variables

To continue, the Spearman correlation test (see Appendix 4.2) indicates that *behavioural intention* correlates with *behavioural beliefs*, *motivations to comply* and *control beliefs*.

#### 8.4.4 Stepwise regression

The stepwise regression analysis of SPSS (Appendix 4.3), shows that only three out of five variables determine the outcome of peoples behavioural intention. The outcomes assume that only

motivations to comply, control beliefs and problem recognition determine the behavioural intention for the visitors. *Trust* and *behavioural beliefs* have been left out. No Vif- values are found above ten which means that there is no multi-collinearity between the independent variables. The final regression equation is the following:

Behavioural intention= 2,127 + 0,310\* (motivations to comply) + -0,410\* (control beliefs)+ 0,269\* (problem recognition)

The standardized regression coefficients for these variables are 0,370 for *motivations to comply*, -,289 for *control beliefs* and 0,266 for *problem recognition*. So again *motivations to comply* have the highest impact on the behavioural intentions.

The adjusted R-square of the adapted model (Figure 31) explains 30,3% of the variance of the dependent variable *behavioural intention*.

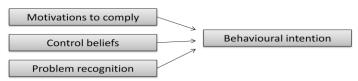


Figure 31: Adapted model visitors

#### 8.5 Results statistic analysis members of associations

This paragraph tests the hypotheses on the data set of members of associations.

#### 8.5.1 Testing goodness of data

Below in Table 11 is shown what the Cronbach's alpha values are for the group of members of associations. Again almost the same appears for this groups as for the visitors. Within the variable *problem recognition* only variable Q4.1: 'I was aware of the changes in the area' is deleted. Deleting this items is already enough to improve the Alpha to 0.616. The variable *problem recognition* for the members of associations thus obtains one more item than for visitors and the general analysis. According to the test, for *control beliefs* this time two items have to be removed, namely 'I don't have time' and 'I have never been asked'. Again both items have been preserved because the items are expected to have a crucial impact on behavioural intentions. *Evaluation of expected outcomes* and *normative beliefs* again have to be put into the factor analysis, because their alpha does not exceed 0.51 and 0.53.

Variables	Original number of items	Final number of items	Original Cronbach's alfa	Final Cronbach's alfa
Behavioural intention	10	10	0,837	0,837
Behavioural beliefs	8	8	0,892	0,892
Problem recognition	5	4	0,475	0,616
Evaluation of expected outcomes	5	-	0,309	-
Normative beliefs	5	-	0,204	-
Motivations to comply	5	5	0,928	0,928
Control beliefs	8	6	0,580	0,635
Trust	5	5	0,904	0,904

#### 8.5.2 Explorative factor analysis

The KMO test, shows a value of 0,503 which is barely enough to conduct a factor analysis (Appendix 5.2). This already indicates that probably no new reliable factors will be found. The factor analysis has been executed to check this. Factor 1 (Appendix 5.1) does not seem to be a logical factor, the same applies to factor 2 and 4. Factor 3 has a relation in the sense that both seem to refer to personal contributions with respect to participation. These factors together have a Cronbach's value of 0.456, which is not sufficient. Also here, no new variables will be added to the data set.

#### 8.5.3 Correlations between variables

The spearman correlation matrix (Appendix 5.2) shows us that behavioural intention significantly correlates with *behavioural beliefs*, *motivations to comply* and *control beliefs*. Other variables correlate by coincidence.

#### 8.5.4 Stepwise regression

The stepwise regression analysis (Appendix 5.3), confirms that only these two variables influence behavioural intention. Within this model only *behavioural beliefs* and *trust* are factors which determine the outcomes of behavioural intention.

The regression equation for the visitors group which fits to this model is the following:

Behavioural intention= 0,469+ 0,674\*(behavioural beliefs) + 0,217 \*(trust)

The standardized regression coefficients show a value of 0,665 for *behavioural beliefs* and 0,254 for *trust*.

The adjusted R-square of the adapted model (Figure 32) explains 49,4% of the variance of the dependent variable *behavioural intention*.

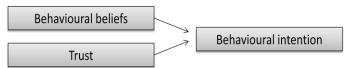


Figure 32: Adapted model members of associations

#### 8.6 Conclusions

The Theory of Planned Behaviour suggested there are five factors influencing people's behavioural intention. In this research two variables were added to this, namely trust and problem recognition. Seven variables were expected to have an influence on people's behavioural intention. However, two of these variables (expected outcomes and normative beliefs) were not internally consistent enough to be part of the analysis.

The analysis shows that positive behavioural beliefs and motivations to comply lead to positive behavioural intentions towards participation among the totality of respondents. Positive control beliefs do however lead to decreased behavioural intentions. Motivations to comply have got the greatest impact on behavioural intentions, which indicates that people are likely to be influenced by others behaviour and opinions. The second contributor is behavioural beliefs. This means that if people belief participation will bring personal benefits, they are more likely to participate. In practice this means that if the recreatieschap and GZH would like to increase the level of participation they can obtain highest results by for example setting up participation as a group activity and to focus on the social aspects of participation. Besides, the organization can try for example to set up marketing

activities, which focus not per se on finding on participation as being a solution for problems in the area, but more on the participation as being a activity which gives meaning to your life (like joy, experience, friendships etc.). The last factor influencing peoples intentions is control beliefs. It is therefore recommended to the organization to try to remove barriers for participation, like taking away financial restrictions, distance barriers etc. (more about this in Paragraph 10.2).

More specifically, the best way to stimulate visitors to participate is also by increasing their motivations to comply. This means that also visitors are sensitive to opinions and behaviour of other people in their social environment. The more people are likely to participate, the more visitors are willing to help the Brielse Meer. Secondly, visitors can be stimulated by taking away barriers for participation. Finally, the level of problem recognition should be improved to increase their intentions. This is a relatively easy factor to influence. The organization should focus on creating problem awareness among the visitors to increase their participation.

For members of organizations, especially behavioural beliefs influence their intentions. This means that personal benefits of participation are important for this specific group.

Besides, also a smaller factor of influence for this group is the trust they have in the organization. Improving trust in the organization will help to improve levels of participation among members of associations.

In Chapter 9, 10 and 11 more extensively will be explained what factors have been tested and what can be done to improve or change the influence of these variables on people intention to participate.

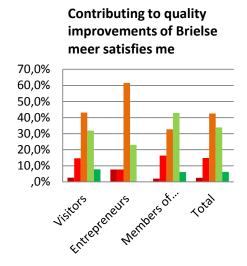
# 9. Supporting factors

#### 9.1 Introduction

According to the regression analysis, the variables supporting behavioural intentions are *behavioural* beliefs, motivations to comply, problem recognition and trust. Within this chapter the results of the survey will be explained in detail.

#### 9.2 Behavioural beliefs

The variable *behavioural beliefs* explains what benefits people think participation will bring them personally. People responded most positively on the item about 'satisfaction' (Figure 33). 40% of the respondents (strongly) agree with the statement that being part of activities and developments will give them a feeling of satisfaction. This effect is most mentioned by the members of associations and visitors. Over 60% of the entrepreneurs however doubt whether participation would satisfy them.



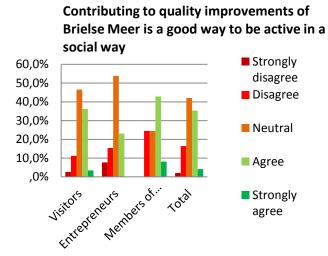


Figure 33: Contributions to quality improvements of Brielse Meer satisfies me (in %)

Figure 34: Contributing to quality improvements of Brielse Meer is a good way to be active in a social way (in %)

Another positive result (see Figure 34) is people think participation activities are a good manner to be active in a social way (39,5% of the respondents agreed on this statement). Among members of associations, this percentage is even more positively responded than within the other two groups. 51.5% of the members (strongly) agrees with the statement. Also visitors think being active for the Brielse Meer is a good way to be socially involved. Entrepreneurs agree to lesser extent.

Besides, 33.8% of the respondents say contributing to quality improvements in Brielse Meer is fun (Appendix 6.1). This is again a promising score. Again members of associations score highest within this category. Also almost one third of the people think participation will bring them knowledge and/ or experience (Appendix 6.2). Among this category relatively few people say to strongly disagree with the statement. 50% of all people answered to be neutral.

Moreover, respondents do not believe that participation will offer them solutions for personal problems (See Appendix 6.3). Within this item the 'disagrees' and 'strongly disagrees' for the first time exceed the 'neutrals'. Even for entrepreneurs this seems not to be the case. For all groups no

'strongly agrees' have been answered at all. This indirectly states that people do not consider the situation of Brielse Meer as a personal problem.

A contradiction can be found within the item about 'achieving something with others' (See Appendix 6.4). More than a third of the association members think participation will make them achieve something (together with other people). On the other hand, it is the same group which has also the highest level of people disagreeing with this statement. Remarkably, entrepreneurs most strongly agree with this statement. Besides, they also agree most on the statement that participation offers them a personal challenge (See Appendix 6.5). Finally as expected, only entrepreneurs (38%) think participation will lead to personal economic benefits (See Appendix 6.6). For others this is not relevant.

#### 9.3 Motivations to comply

Within this research the variable *motivations to comply* tested whether people are sensitive to the behaviour of other people. They have been asked whether they would participate if family members, friends, members of their (sports-) association, colleagues or other entrepreneurs would participate. The first three items only have been asked to visitors and members of associations.

As already shown in the regression analysis, especially visitors are sensitive to behaviour of others. What can be concluded is that both visitors and members of associations are most likely to participate if members of their associations do this too. A striking result is that over 60% of the members of associations themselves answers to be willing to help if others of their association would do so too. However, according to the statistics, motivations to comply were not significantly related with their intentions towards behaviour. For visitors this result is much lower but still over 25% (but is significantly related).

Organizing participation around groups of friends seems to be a little less effective (25% says to agree). Another 26% said not to consider to participation if their friends would do so. 20% of the respondents say to consider participation if their family members would do so. Respondents are the least likely to participate if their colleagues do so.

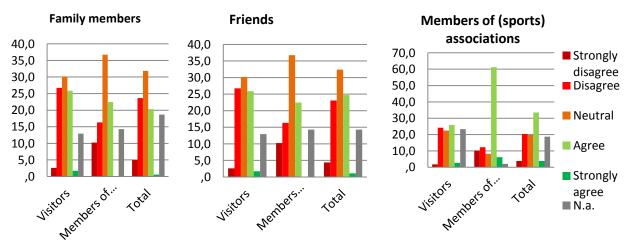


Figure 35: Family members (in %)

Figure 36: Friends (in %)

Figure 37: Members of (sports-) associations (in %)

Entrepreneurs only have been asked whether they would participate if other entrepreneurs would do so. 53% of them answered to consider participation, while 22% would not or says to be neutral.

A last question was added to test whether people think themselves to be sensitive to opinions and behaviour of others with regard to the situation of Brielse Meer. Here a big difference can be seen between the opinions of entrepreneurs compared to the others. They say to be far more sensitive to opinions of others.

Contradictory, members of associations say not to be sensitive towards opinions of others, while a big part of them says to participate if others of their associations would do so. An explanation beyond speculation for this can unfortunately, not be given.

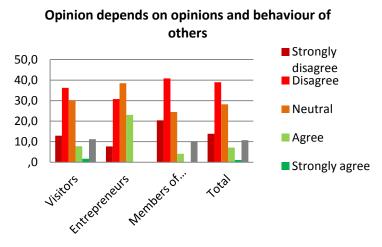


Figure 38: Opinion depends on behaviour of others (in %)

#### 9.4 Problem recognition

A few questions have been asked about people's recognition of the problem in Brielse Meer. This is important because, motivations for participation are said to be related to the way people make sense of a specific situation or phenomena (Weick et al., 1995). This also has been confirmed by the regression analysis. Within the survey first has been explained to the respondents what changes are going to happen within the Brielse Meer because of the retrenchments. Afterwards their opinion has been asked about the problem.

Resulting from these questions can be stated that people do recognize the problems of Brielse Meer. 71% of all respondents say that quality loss within the Brielse Meer area will lead to negative consequences for them personally (Appendix 7.1). Especially entrepreneurs are concerned about the situation. As a logical consequence 60% of the people argued to strongly agree with the statement that the quality of the area should be protected within the future. Nobody answered to disagree.

Surprising is that most people (over 60%) answered that problems are bigger than they expected in first instance. This is at least remarkable because earlier in chapter 6, 60% of all respondents said to obtain information about the developments and activities within the area. People are thus despite the fact that they are informed not very well known with the practical consequences of the retrenchments in the area. This might mean that the given information was not complete or too positively expressed. Entrepreneurs seem to be better informed, but the difference is not great.

Respondents additionally responded to fear impoverishments of not only the area but also of the touristic sector in surrounding areas. They think the retrenchments are too rigorous and irresponsible.

#### 9.5 Trust in the organization

GZH should form the link between- and is contact point of- the actors in the area and the recreatieschap. Within the survey, respondents have been asked about whether they trust the organization of GZH. Because trust is said to be an important factor for participation five different questions have been asked, to explore peoples trust in the organization.

First should be mentioned that more than a third of the total respondents does not have an opinion about the organization. Already in the visitors research of NRIT (2010) has been mentioned that GZH is not very well known among visitors.

Even almost a third of the entrepreneurs answered these questions were not applicable to them. This may mean that these entrepreneurs not have been in contact with GZH and therefore are not able to answer the questions. Among the entrepreneurs who do have an opinion, trust in the organization seems to be very low. 31% of the entrepreneurs says not to trust the organization of GZH. The others are neutral against this statement. There was however no one of the entrepreneurs who gave a positive response to this questions. Members of associations seem to trust the organization the most.



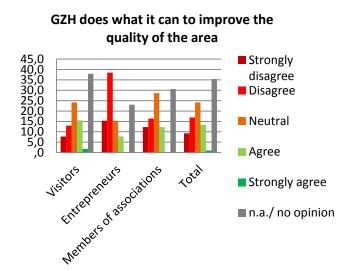


Figure 39: GZH is an organization I trust (in %)

Figure 40: GZH does what it can to improve the quality of the area (in %)

For visitors this division is different. Over 40% of the visitors seem to be not familiar with the organization of GZH and I often got the feeling that people do not know the difference between the GZH and the recreatieschap or consider the two organizations to be one and the same. This is not strange. Visitors probably will not notice the presence of GZH or recreatieschap during a normal visit in the Brielse Meer area, because maintenance of the area has been outsourced to external organizations. This can be a reason why another third of the respondents answered these questions with 'neutral'. The same applies to members of associations, however their trust in the organization seems to be a bit higher.

From the second graph can be concluded that people do not believe GZH does enough to improve the quality of the area. Especially entrepreneurs are not convinced about it. Besides, people are also not convinced that GZH takes them serious when they have complaints or when they do suggestions. 37% does not have an opinion about this, while only 10% of the people think GZH takes them serious (Figure 41). Two persons responded: 'I several times expressed complaints concerning security issues.. nothing has happened'. Another said: 'They do not react on my written complaints'. Entrepreneurs also do not believe attention is paid to the interests of other parties in the area. Only eleven percent of the people thinks the organization does.

Finally, it will not surprise that most people are not sure about whether the organization is a good party to cooperate with. 44% does not have an opinion, and 33% stands neutral against this statement and only 8% says to agree. Especially entrepreneurs do not think GZH is a good partner for participation (Appendix 8.1).

Many additional arguments are given for this distrust. Entrepreneurs complain about the fact that realizing plans with the GZH and the recreatieschap takes too long. They say sometimes initiatives even get dismissed already before having a conversation with the GZH. Something which was mentioned several times by both visitors and entrepreneurs is that they often have the feeling, that improving or helping the area has not been appreciated by the recreatieschap. Someone told he constructed his own bench, because the old one was broken and removed by GZH. He expressed his anger that after a few weeks his bench was removed. Another person on the blog said:

"In the Easter weekend I took the initiative to mow the lawn near the parking lot on the side of Brielle near the Kogeloven. This has not been appreciated by GZH, while visitors were happy with it" (Translate from: Kroon, www.vprverandert.nl, 2012, June 2).

# GZH takes me serious when I complain or do suggestions

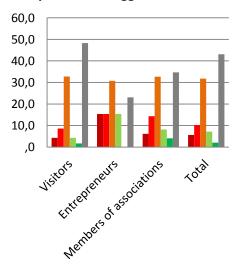


Figure 41: GZH takes me serious when I complain or do suggestions (in %)

#### GZH pays attention to interests of other parties

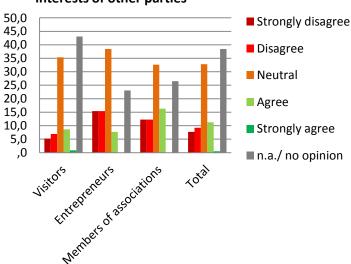


Figure 42: GZH pays attention to interests of other parties (in %)

#### 9.6 Conclusion

Already is shown that the behavioural beliefs is the major motivator for participation (especially for visitors and shortly followed by members of associations). Within this chapter, it has been shown that especially social benefits of participation motivate people. 40% of the people believe participation is fun and will give them a feeling of satisfaction. Besides, a large number of people call it a good way to be active in a social way. For this group, participation should especially be seen as a social and fun activity and not per se as a necessity for a problem solution. Entrepreneurs are less motivated by these factors. Almost nobody says to be motivated by personal problems. Only entrepreneurs are motivated by personal benefits.

Motivations to comply is another important contributor for peoples behavioural intention. Within motivations to comply comes to the fore that respondents are most likely to consider participation if this would happen together with co-members of associations. Especially members of associations score very high on this statement. Visitors are equally motivated to participate by family members, friends and other members of their (sports-) associations. A quarter of them says to be sensitive to behaviour and opinions of other. More than half of the entrepreneurs says to be motivated by other entrepreneurs who participate.

From this all might be said that it is an option to organize participation within already organized groups of people. It seems like visitors and members of associations are more willing to take part in participation activities with people with which they already associate for example within their spare time. Organizing participation with (sports) associations seems to be a good idea and should be quite easy to realize. Realizing participation around groups of friends is more difficult and labour intensive, but is a good second option. Entrepreneurs are also very likely to participate if this happens with other entrepreneurs.

Problem recognition is a contributing factor for visitors. All respondents seem to be aware of the problems in Brielse Meer and a great majority thinks this will have consequences for them personally. Of course, especially entrepreneurs think it will affect them. However, more than half of all respondents say problems are bigger than expected, which may indicate that people are less good informed that thought in first instance. Entrepreneurs seem to be a bit better informed about the changes in the area.

From the results first can be concluded the GZH might not be very well known by the actors in the area. Already in the visitors research of NRIT (2010) has been mentioned that GZH is not very well known among visitors. Secondly, for the people who do know the organization, the trust level is predominantly negative. This is especially the case among entrepreneurs. According to Lowndes et al.(2011) this might be an important factor for people not to cooperate with the organization. People are likely to dissociate themselves from participation processes if they have a negative image of the authorities. This negative image does not always have to exist of bad experiences but can also be based on just simple ideas and prejudices (Lowndes et al, 2011). It is possible that this negative image has been brought forward by negative experiences with the GZH, however it may also be influenced by negative media attention and the negative consequences of the retrenchments. The survey itself does not directly tell where this distrust stems from, but from the additional comments can be suggested people believe the organization too fast rejects own initiatives, sometimes ignores complaints and/or is too slow in making decisions. However, trust in the partner-organization is a crucial aspect and forms a base for cooperation. The statistic analysis tells us that the variable trust is only of influence on behavioural intentions of members of associations. It can not be derived from this survey why this is specifically the case for members of associations. Although statistically trust seems to be of small relevance, the importance of these results should not be underestimated.

# 10. Limiting factors

#### 10.1 Introduction

The statistic regression analysis for the total of respondents shows that *behavioural control* has a significant negative influence on people's intention to participate. In this paragraph will be described what factors more or less limit people to participate. Each factor will be dealt with below.

#### 10.2 Control beliefs

Within the survey eight questions have been asked about what limits people to participate. Time is according to the respondents the most constraining element to not take part within participation processes. 54% of all respondents said time could be a limitation for them to participate within development and activities within the Brielse Meer. What can be seen from Figure 43 is that entrepreneurs mostly think time is a constraining factor. There are no strong differences between the experience of time pressures on the different groups of respondents.

Almost 70% (Figure 44) of all people answered that their feeling of involvement in the area is not a limiting factor for participation. Only a quarter of all people believe they do not feel involved enough to improve the quality of Brielse Meer. Almost nobody who filled out the survey said to totally not feel involved. However, it should be taken into account that persons who are willing to answer the survey are probably already more interested in the area of Brielse Meer than people who do not. The differences in the involvement between the different respondent groups are not very surprising. People who have a greater interest in the area like entrepreneurs and members of associations are less likely to say that their involvement is a limiting factor for participation. No one of the entrepreneurs said not to feel involved.

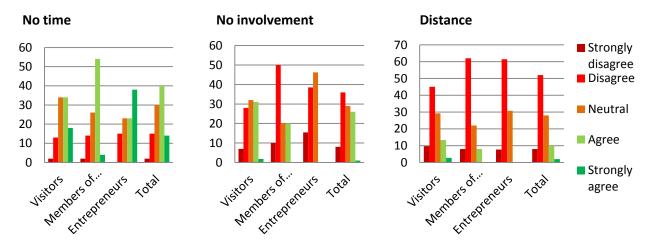


Figure 43: No time (in %)

Figure 44: No involvement (in %)

Figure 45: Distance (in %)

In general, also distance is not a limiting factor for the respondents (Figure 45). As already said, the Brielse Meer in general attracts local visitors, who visit the Brielse Meer on a regular basis. Less than 10% of the respondents says to be restricted because they think the distance to Brielse Meer is too far.

According to the visitor research of NRIT in 2010, the average age of the visitors is relatively high compared to other areas of Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg. Almost half of the people within this research

are within the age-category of between 51 and 65 years old. This may have consequences for the ability of people to do physical work within the area. Although off course the percentage of people who agree on this statement increases with their age, the people who really say not to be able to do physical work is not insurmountable high. Only 20% of the respondents think that their physical health restrains them from participation.

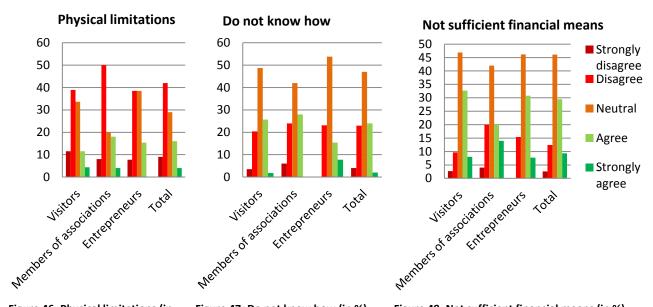


Figure 46: Physical limitations (in %)

Figure 47: Do not know how (in %)

Figure 48: Not sufficient financial means (in %)

The question whether people are limited by not knowing the possibilities for participation, yields division with the responses. The high percentage (47%) of people with a 'neutral'-response indicates that people are not convinced to know what they can do to improve the quality of Brielse Meer. Almost 30% says not to know how to participate within activities and developments within the area. Finding a solution for this is relatively easy and worthwhile.

Just a small percentage of respondents said that financial means do not restrict them from participation (Figure 48). Again, these results may give a biased indication. If people are for example not willing to pay for participation and related activities, which is a different question, they are more likely to answer to not have the necessary money to do so. Also people who do not know what contribution is expected from them, probably answer this question with 'neutral'. Contradicting with these results are the results of the visitor research of NRIT Onderzoek in 2010, which shows that lower income groups, are significantly less represented than in other areas of VPR.

Another limitation which has been asked for is, if people think to have enough knowledge or experience to participate within activities and development of Brielse Meer. Also this question gave a high neutrality response. Also for this question might be said that people do often not know what experience and knowledge they should have to fulfill these tasks. Nevertheless, in general can be said that more people think to have enough knowledge to fulfill such tasks, than people who think to not have enough experience or knowledge.

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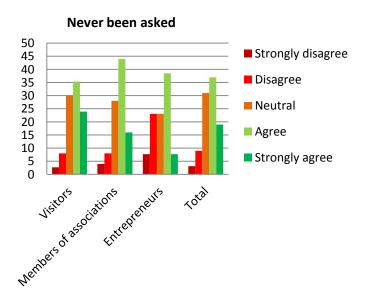


Figure 49: Not sufficient knowledge/ experience (in %)

Figure 50: Never been asked (in %)

The final question asked is about whether people have been asked to participate within activities and development within Brielse Meer. Eleven percent says to be invited to cooperate. Another 56% of the people says that they never have been asked to participate. Increasing participation is often a matter of literally inviting people and asking them to do something for you. People often do not know what should be done and even if they are willing to help they will not take the initiative themselves to cooperate (Lowndes et al, 2011). Lowdes et al. (2011) suggest that people who are most likely to participate are often the people who are already active in other organizations, committees with issues which relate to problem which has to be solved. In the case of the Brielse Meer this should be action committees and people who are active within boards of other associations.

#### 10.3 Conclusion

A limiting factor for all respondents within control beliefs is time. Many people say to have not enough time available to participate. Another limitation for participation are peoples available financial resources. However, this might probably more be caused by their willingness to financially contribute than their actual sufficiency of financial resources. Already in previous research was shown that visitors of other areas have got less financial resources. Most people believe to have sufficient knowledge or experience to participate.

Another limiting factor is the fact that a lot of people never have been approached to participate. This is to lesser extent applicable to entrepreneurs but still almost half of them says not to be approached to participate, which is surprising. Involvement and distance almost not seem to limit people from participation.

#### 11. Additional results

#### 11.1 Introduction

Within this chapter the results will be described of the variables which could not be taken into the statistic analysis. These variables are *normative beliefs* and *evaluations of expected outcomes*. Although these factors could not be taken into the statistic analysis the results can still include interesting results. Additionally, will be elaborated on reactions of respondents within the survey.

#### 11.2 Normative beliefs

Although people do think the problems within the Brielse Meer are of importance for themselves, they do not see quality improvement as their responsibility (Appendix 9.1). 41% of the respondents agrees on this statement. Especially visitors and members of associations contribute to this high percentage. For entrepreneurs the division is exactly symmetric. Half of the entrepreneurs do think it is their responsibility, half of them do not. Nevertheless 29% of the respondents think Brielse Meer is part of their responsibilities.

Subsequently 72.8% of the respondents said to agree on the statement that the government (and not the private sector) should take care of the Brielse Meer (Appendix 9.2). Entrepreneurs score highest on this opinion, followed by the members of associations. This may mean that although they do feel responsible for the area, they are not willing to take over responsibilities for the Brielse Meer. The percentage of people disagreeing on this statement is almost equal for the three groups. Strange enough, although people do not feel responsible, over a 90% agreed with the statement that a positive environment starts at your own. This might be caused by a very high level of social desirability.

It has also been explored if people think the Brielse Meer has got a negative image. Although it has been stated often by many respondent during the fieldwork, that Brielse Meer is already for several years in decay, people do not think the image of the area is a problem (64%). However, should be noted that within this research only peoples have been approached who still visit the area. Only among entrepreneurs the percentage answering 'agree' is 15 percent point higher than the average of 30%. 60% of the visitors does not think that Brielse Meer has an image problem.

#### 11.3 Expected outcomes

It was expected that If people expect the outcomes of participation to be positive they are more likely to participate in the process. Unfortunately, it was not possible to test this within the research.

Respondents have been asked whether they think cooperation with other parties will offer benefits in the situation of the Brielse Meer. In Figure 51 can be seen that the outcomes for the question are rather negative than positive. There are more people who agree on this statement than people who do not agree, but the main part of the respondent answered to be neutral against this statement. Most optimistic are again the members of associations, while entrepreneurs are least positive.

# Cooperation with other parties will not offer benefits

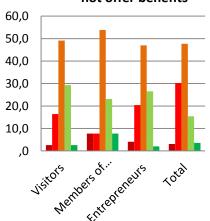


Figure 51: Cooperation will not offer benefits

#### I depend on others for a problem solution

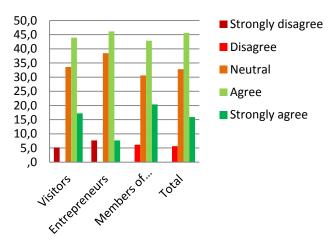


Figure 52: I depend on others for a problem solution (in %)

Although a great part of the respondents does not think cooperation will offer benefits, they do believe they depend on others for a problem solution in the Brielse Meer (60%). Almost nobody thinks to be independent from others. Compared to the visitors and members of associations, entrepreneurs think to depend less on others.

#### 11.4 Additional comments of respondents

As already stated earlier, respondents had the opportunity to give additional comments on questions in the survey. In total 138 additional responses are given on several issues. In response to these comments, a few new issues were raised, which may restrict people from participation with the organization. These additional comments might also give the reason why trust in the organization is so low and why people are not willing to take responsibility for the area.

First of all, many responses raise the issue of responsibility. People do not agree with the budget cuts and are not willing to take responsibility themselves for the area. A first argument is that most people believe they already pay enough taxes. They believe the management of the area is a task of the government. Some people say to be willing to maintain their own terrain, but do not believe the rest of the area should be of their responsibility. Paradigm changes are probably needed to increase participation among these people.

Another point raised is that different parties 'promised' to maintain the area to create a balance between the industrial area of the Botlek.

'The big petroleum refineries in the past made the commitment to maintain the lake and its surroundings for an indefinite period, in exchange for business units and cooling facilities' (anonymous respondent, n.d.).

Now, several years after, it appears they are failing to meet these promises and citizens are expected to stand up themselves to improve the quality of the area. This is bothering many citizens. It definitely boosts reluctance against participation.

Besides, there is another issue mentioned at least ten times by different respondents. This issue is about the complex organization structure of GZH and the recreatieschap. People say to pay already a lot of money for facilities in the area, but they do not believe that their money is spent in an appropriate way. People have the feeling too much time and money is spend on internal meetings,

from which the Brielse Meer itself does not directly profit. Some people belief the organization only cuts back on executive tasks and personnel in the areas, while the 'vergadertijgers' stay where they are. They think costs can drastically be reduced within the organization structure itself. A respondent said:

You can see that lots of money went down the drain last years. GZH stands to far from most users of the area.

This comment directly touches upon the complex structure of the organization. The Brielse Meer is managed by six municipalities, the provincial government and the GZH. According to several respondents the current organization structure slows down decision making processes because the decisive power (the recreatieschap) stands to far from the practical problems in the area. This makes it difficult to come to problem solutions together with the current users of the Brielse Meer. It is said, there are many parties having good ideas to realize innovative plans, but people do not always get permission to do so or became 'frustrated' by the long running time with which decisions are made within the recreatieschap.

The problem with GZH is that they do not have decisive power. After six months, we still can not talk about concrete problem solutions. The construction GZH / recreatieschap creates an opaque organization which is difficult to get through (anonymous respondent, n.d.).

Another person adds to this:

The organization structure leaves the recreatieschap shielded by the GZH.

#### 11.5 Conclusion

People do recognize the need to improve the quality of Brielse Meer but they do not think the Brielse Meer has got a negative image. Only one third see quality improvements as part of their responsibility. People in generally think that the government should take responsibility over the area instead of the private sector. This may probably stem from their dissatisfaction about unfulfilled promises and commitments made about balancing industrial developments in the Botlek with improvements in the Brielse Meer and its surroundings, a promise made by the government several years ago.

Besides, they believe that the recreatieschap obtains enough money from taxes to improve the area itself and it seems like a paradigm shift is needed to let people see the government can no longer do without them.

Moreover, people feel that the complex vertical organization structure of the recreatieschap and GZH makes people feel money got wasted within the many internal meetings and discussions. They believe cut backs should be made within the organization instead of cutting costs on the areas itself. The organization is said to be a slow and passive body with respect to decision making processes. People feel frustrated about the fact that GZH is contact point for users of the area, but is not able to make final decisions, which limits and slows down possibilities for cooperation and participation with the GZH. People feel a distance between them, the recreatieschap and GZH. This also makes people initiate solutions themselves without discussion with the organization, which again leads to friction between users and the organization.

# 12. Discussion, conclusions and recommendations: What is the challenge?

## 12.1 Introduction

In this chapter is described how this research contributes to knowledge about participation in a concrete context to assist the Recreatieschap Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg in their strategy to enhance participation in Brielse Meer, by examining what citizens and entrepreneurs would like to- or can do with respect to public participation.

As a response to hard budget cuts within the recreatieschap, the recreatieschap and GZH are searching for a means to increase participation processes in the area of Brielse Meer. This is done by answering the main question of this research, namely:

'To what extend and in what form, is it possible to increase the contribution of entrepreneurs and citizens in the development and management of Brielse Meer?'

# 12.2 Retrospective and reflection on the methodology

Within this research is tried to answer the main question by using the Theory of Planned Behaviour (Ajzen, 1991) complemented with additional concepts which are according to literature able to influence participation behaviour. This resulted in the assumption that behavioural beliefs, problem recognition, evaluations of expected outcomes, normative beliefs, motivations to comply, control beliefs and trust are factors influencing peoples intentions to participate.

The operationalization of the concepts of the Theory of Planned Behaviour was however not easy because concepts seem to overlap each other regularly. A scientific recommendation is therefore to improve the definition and operationalization of the Theory of Planned Behaviour.

To test the hypothesis, visitors, members of organization and entrepreneurs in- and around the area were asked to fill out a survey. For this research it was difficult to determine what the population of Brielse Meer looks like. Resulting from this, it is harder to make predictions and to do statements about the representativeness of the survey.

In total 195 people fully completed the survey. The reliability of the results of visitors and members of associations can be assured with 84% with an error margin of 7%. This means that the hardness of the results is weaker than statistically desired.

The number respondents for the group of entrepreneurs was however too low to conduct a statistic analysis. This was caused by the small population of entrepreneurs in the area and their willingness to take part in the survey. The results of this group are therefore expected to be less reliable than for visitors and members of associations. Nevertheless, the results are able to give a good first impression to the organization about how to organize participation in the Brielse Meer.

## 12.3 Conclusions and recommendations

## **Current strategy and situation of Brielse Meer**

The Brielse Meer area is owned by the Recreatieschap Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg. The recreatieschap exists of a cooperation of six municipalities and the province of Zuid-Holland, who together have the

decisive power over the six recreational areas. The recreatieschap is again split up in a board of directors, responsible for decisions in the recreational areas. The executive committee prepares the affaires over which the board of directors have to decide and is responsible for directing the GZH.

GZH is the executive organization of the Province Zuid-Holland. GZH does not have decisive power, but is responsible for the financial administration, project management, contract management, maintenance, marketing strategies and issuance of permits for the different areas of VPR.

At the moment the recreatieschap is dealing with financial issues. In the 1960's recreational areas were set up to offer free recreational facilities for the public. Brielse Meer was designed for stationary forms of recreation which were at that moment the standard. This maintenance intensive design of the area became old-fashioned nowadays and does no longer fulfill current recreational needs. Thereby, over the years less state-money was available for maintenance in recreational areas, and within the Brielse Meer maintenance costs for years exceeded the available budgets. In 2008 the financial crisis deteriorated the financial situation of the local government which made the decision to reduce their expenses on recreation. At that time the recreatieschap decided something had to happen with regard to their own strategy and to set up 'area plans' in which drastic changes had been planned to structurally reduce the expenses of the areas. Within their strategy, Brielse Meer did not receive priority because of its local character.

At the moment, there is no money available for any quality improvement in the area. Instead, facilities have been removed to reduce maintenance costs. On the long-term, the recreatieschap hopes to concentrate recreational facilities in the area around hot-spots according to user intensity. However, on short-term no improvements are likely to be done. The only way to improve the quality of the area is by searching for external support from citizens and entrepreneurs. The problem is however, that the recreatieschap and GZH have no clue about how to organize this and randomly try to set up partnerships when the opportunity arises. They are willing to increase participation, but lack of experience in this field tricks upon them and goals or strategies for participation processes are not (yet) present.

## **Current participation**

Before 2008, GZH had relatively little contact with actors in the area of Brielse Meer, because there was no need to involve citizens. A few times they consulted visitors by means of a survey and they informed people with touristic flyers. All communication went via the head quarter. This was not very efficient and GZH appointed a contract- manager for the areas in VPR to improve communication with leaseholders and visitors in the areas. Although at the moment contact with the actors is not very structured, a few discussion groups among entrepreneurs are set up to discuss issue in the area.

After the announcement of the budget cuts, GZH improved their communication with actors by means of information meetings and a blog. Besides, a cleaning operation was set up to- together with citizens and entrepreneurs- clean up the area. At the moment, GZH especially initiates activities consistent with lower steps of the participation ladder.

Also from the side of the citizens, many initiatives were launched to fight for quality improvements in the area. Four action committees stood up to fight against the budget cuts in the areas, another cleaning operation was organized and entrepreneurs already came together to organize an event to highlight the Brielse Meer area. Involvement among citizens already seems to present, which is promising for future participation. Nowadays, participation is most present in forms of obtaining information, giving opinions and advising. Surprisingly, even over ten percent of the respondents says to bring in practice own initiatives (of which GZH not always seems to be aware). Moreover,

associations and entrepreneurs are together with GZH exploring possibilities for transferring maintenance responsibilities over parts of the area to associations and entrepreneurs.

# Increasing participation in Brielse Meer in the future is possible

Currently, participation with citizens and entrepreneurs is lower than the intention of people to participate, which is a promising result. Only 15% of all respondents said not to be willing to be involved in activities within the area. Although a division could be found in the willingness of entrepreneurs, in general their willingness to participate is highest on almost on all types of participation. What causes this division in opinion from entrepreneurs is not known and might be a suggestion for a follow-up study.

Respondents are especially willing to give their opinion and to advice the organization. Although this form of participation will not bring down management costs, it is a good first step to increase participation for the future. A fifth of the people is willing to do voluntary activities. Volunteers especially should be sought for among members of associations.

Another option, which is often not mentioned within literature around the subject of participation is the option to let people financially support the organization. With cautiousness might be said that entrepreneurs and members of organizations stand relatively positive against paying for the use of jetties in the area. Although visitors do currently not pay anything for the jetties, they seem not to be willing to do this in the future. Besides, voluntary fees are likely to bring relatively great additional revenues for maintenance of the Brielse Meer. When introducing fees, the organization should be aware of the fact people in return would like to see visible quality improvements in the Brielse Meer. Increasing transparency in what will- or has happened with these fees, will make people less reticent and will probably increase trust in the organization.

Resulting from the regression analysis can be seen that higher intentions to participate relate to positive motivations to comply and behavioural beliefs. Control beliefs in contrary decrease the intention of the respondents. The theoretical model can thus not fully be verified by means of this survey. When taking the three sample groups apart, it shows there are differences within factzrs influencing their behaviour. For visitors motivations to comply, control beliefs and also problem recognition are relevant for making the choice to participate or not. Among members of associations only trust and behavioural beliefs, seem to have a significant influence on their intention. No logical causes can be given for the differences between the groups. Also should be taken into account this research contains only peoples 'intentions' to participate. It is however not known to what extent these intentions also offer guarantees for real behaviour of the persons involved.

## Participation as a social activity

First of all, the organization is advised to organize participation around already existing groups of people, like for example (sports-) associations. People seem to be sensitive to behaviour of people they know and with which they already have a social relation. They are most likely to participate if they can do this with people of their (sports-)association. A second option might be with friends or family members. Entrepreneurs are also sensitive for opinions and behaviour of other entrepreneurs. Uniting people thus increases the likeliness to participate.

Moreover, peoples willingness increases when they believe participation offers them fun, a social activity or if they believe it will bring them experience/ knowledge or a feeling of satisfaction. Within its marketing and communication, the organization should pay more attention to the fact that participation should not only practically improve the quality of Brielse Meer, but also gives meaning to peoples life.

## **Removing barriers**

Taking away barriers for participation can also form a strategy to increase participation. Examples of barriers which people think to limit them to participate are time, having not financial resources and the fact that they never have been asked to do so. These barriers can relatively easily be solved by convincing people participation does not take much time or money and to organize participation activities which take into account peoples time-restrictions. The organization should also take into account that people often do not know how they can be part of activities. If they would like to increase participation they should provide organized activities and literally ask people to participate in it.

## **Raising awareness**

Additionally, especially among visitors it is recommended to raise problem awareness. Although most people already believe the quality of Brielse Meer is of importance for them personally, they did not expect the changes in the area to be that drastically. This means that people should better be informed about the practical consequences of policy changes for the area. The more visitors themselves recognize the problems in the area, the more they are likely to participate. For members of organizations it is more important to improve trust in the organization to improve participation among this group.

## Increasing recognition and trust

It is noticed that many people do not know the organization of GZH or do not know the difference between GZH and the recreatieschap. For the people who do know the organization(s), faith in the organization of the recreatieschap and GZH seems to be low. Although it could not statistically be tested, trust also is expected to have an influence on the intentions of entrepreneurs to participate. The problem is that people say to feel a distance between them and the organization and they complain about the slow decision making processes. They say the inefficient vertical organization structure of the recreatieschap and GZH, makes it difficult to cooperate with both organizations. From this, the idea exists that many initiatives remain unanswered, which leads to missed opportunities for the GHZ and the recreatieschap. This again results in frustration among entrepreneurs and citizens and friction between them and the organizations.

A solution should be found for this problem in a more horizontal focus of both organizations. As explained in the introduction, the organization should place itself on an equal level with the market and citizens, should try to loosen authority structures and more equally spread powers. The organizations should be more oriented towards the users in the area, and should try to timely react on comments, ideas and initiatives. Only in this way they can try to recover the trust in the organization and make the most of participation.

# The need for a paradigm shift

Finally, the problem with respect to participation does not lie in the fact that actors in the area do not feel involved, rather the problem may be found in the fact that people do not feel responsible for the area. This is a typical situation of having 'the gain, without the pain'. People believe that the quality of the Brielse Meer is and must remain a task of the government. Also entrepreneurs think the Brielse Meer is not the responsibility of the private sector and probably a paradigm shift is needed before participation can actually become a success. This lack of responsibility might besides stem from their dissatisfaction about unfulfilled promises and commitments made about balancing industrial developments in the Botlek with improvements in the Brielse Meer. Because no hard evidence can be given for both trust- and responsibilities issues it is strongly recommended to explore these issues on the short term because they might have a strong influence on peoples behavioural intentions.

# Reflection

group.

In this last chapter, I would like to look back and reflect on my research report. It will give my personal opinion about the execution of the research and the given results, conclusions and recommendations.

First of all, I would like to say that I'm still very surprised about the fact that writing this research went very smooth. I owe this to the fact that all people around me; my supervisors, colleagues but also my respondents and interviewees all felt very involved with my thesis. Because of this fact, not many delays appeared and I could stick quite easily to my research schedule.

Another positive point of my research is the fact that my method for approaching respondents turned out to be a success. Within three weeks, in total 195 people fully completed the survey, which I believe is a good result. I am glad I approached people face-to-face for my survey. I believe this made people more willing to fill out my survey. At the same time having short conversations with these people already revealed lots of information about their general involvement in the area and the tendencies with regard to the budget cuts. Besides, It was good to speak to entrepreneurs in person, because the low number of respondents made it difficult to generalize the results of this

Another point of which I'm proud, is the fact that with my very limited knowledge about statistics, I was able to complete the regression analysis and factor analysis myself. It took me many days to delve into the SPSS manual and other statistical literature. Although sometimes I felt like giving up, in the end I believe all the efforts were worthwhile.

Something I regret is the fact that some parts of the Theory of Planned Behaviour have been applied in the survey different from the actual theory. This is the unfortunate result of differently or sometimes even wrong interpretation of the theory, which decreased the validity of the research. This is in my opinion the biggest weakness of my report. If I had read the theory more carefully, this could have easily been prevented.

Another more or less negative point, is that the text of the statistical results are sometimes though to get through. I believe this is however difficult to solve if you would like to include all results of the survey.

In the end, I would like to say that despite these facts, I believe my report offers the recreatieschap and the Groenservice Zuid-Holland a lot of new and relevant information for future strategies. I believe the results give an honest overview of the thoughts and intentions of people involved in the area. My report also made clear my own statements and gives some useful practical recommendations to increase participation in the future. It besides, it provides a good overview of the knowledge I obtained during the last half year.

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# **Appendices**

# Appendix 1: Historical background of recreational policies and recreatieschappen

#### 1.1 Introduction

In this chapter a short overview is given of the historical background with regard to recreational policies and the organization of recreatieschappen in the Netherlands. This explains already gives a short indication how recreational areas in general are managed, how recreatieschappen are regulated and it besides gives an indication why most recreatieschappen have difficulties in financing its areas.

## 1.2 Recreational policies

In the beginning of the 19th century, many people didn't have much spare time and space for recreation was limited. People were living together in cities and they could spend their free time in city parks and fields around the city. Also in rural areas, there was less space than before. The population was growing and agricultural activities were expanding (Ministerie van Landbouw, Natuur & Voedselkwaliteit [LNV], 2005). In the 1950s, the economy of our country increased and people had more free time which they often spend outside their homes. During these times, the first manifestations of a recreational sector became to be visible (Ministerie van LNV, 2005).

In the 1960s the phenomenon of recreation expanded rapidly which made it necessary for the government to intervene in great societal and spatial differences in possibilities for recreation. Municipalities and provinces were in these times not yet equipped to regulate this new phenomenon. Therefore, the national government took the lead in the formulation and execution of policies focused on management of recreational facilities. From the 1960s until the 1990s, large amounts of money have been subsidized by the national government to set up new facilities for recreational activities. They launched many initiatives to satisfy the need for recreational space of its citizens. They made large amounts of land available for the use of recreation. Main goal was to reduce the quantitative shortage in recreational activities and recreational areas arisen from the expanding demand for recreation (Tweede Kamer der Staten Generaal, 1993). Natural landscapes, such as forests, conserved natural areas were (partly) made accessible for recreational activities (Minsterie van LNV, 2005) and they provided non-commercial facilities such as cycling paths and pick nick facilities within the areas. From the 1970's and onwards more and more recreatieschappen were created in which the national government financially supported cooperation between municipalities, and provincial governments (Tweede Kamer der Staten Generaal, 1993) in the creation and management of recreational areas. Later on, in the 1980's, the government began to recognize the strong relation between tourism and recreation. Because tourism had a stronger focus on the market, the first recreational and touristic plans had been developed to increase the level of entrepreneurs in the sector. The strongly improved infrastructure between the public and private initiators made way for a stronger role of the entrepreneurs in recreation (Tweede Kamer der Staten Generaal, 1993) and slowly decreased the role of the government in the recreational sector.

After all, these efforts of the government to increase the amount of recreational space, in the 1990s there was still a lack of creational space (Tweede Kamer der Staten Generaal, 1993). This especially can be due to the growing population and the increased use of recreational areas. Moreover, not only quantity but also quality became of greater importance.

The new market developments in the recreational sectors, was one of the factors that made the government decide to adopt a new attitude towards the recreational sector. The approach to construct and maintain these new areas changed. The ministry of LNV decided to transfer more management and development responsibilities for natural landscapes to provincial governments, municipalities and to land management organizations such as Staatsbosbeheer and recreatieschappen, which were still financially supported by the government (Ministerie van Landbouw, Natuur en Voedselkwaliteit & Ministerie van Volkshuisvesting, Ruimtelijke Ordening en Milieu, 2009).

Another reason behind this decision was that local governments were assumed to have more specific knowledge about the location of the areas and the recreational needs and desires of the citizens and the entrepreneurs in the area (Minsterie van Landbouw, Natuur & Voedselkwaliteit, 2005). In 1992 this new approach of the government has been registered in the beleidsnota openluchtrecreatie 1992-2010 (Tweede Kamer der Staten Generaal, 1993).

In the beleidsnota openluchtrecreatie 1992-2010 (policy brief outdoor recreation 1992-2010), it was officially announced that the national government decided to dissociate itself from many recreational tasks and to decentralize their responsibilities towards the lower governments. They kept the primary responsibility for the policy formulations and supervision on the national level, while public organizations, local and provincial governments received the responsibility for the execution of the policies (Tweede Kamer der Staten Generaal, 1993). Nowadays the governmental policies create conditions for the sector, are directional, and leave room for the national government to take initiatives when they think it's necessary. This means that the national government takes responsibility for the spatial planning of recreational use of areas, gives direction to developments in demand in cooperation with the sector and takes care of the quality of recreation and the possibilities of recreation in our country. The main responsibilities for recreational areas have been transferred to the existing recreatieschappen.

## 1.3 Recreatieschappen

In the 1970s, the government appointed many recreational areas , located outside the urban centers at the borders of municipalities. As a consequence, these areas often cross municipality borders which make it difficult for the involved municipalities to take care of the area and to provide related land use plans. As a solution for this problem the national government suggested the related municipalities to cooperate within recreatieschappen. These recreatieschappen are inter-municipal organizations which take responsibility for the management and conservation of one or more recreational areas. In general, they manage and exploit facilities for outdoor recreational activities outside the urban areas such as swimming areas, picnic areas, cycling routes and toilet facilities. The cooperation between the municipalities had to be beneficial for the efficiency of the management and they should find their strengths in the joint recreational area development policies, an efficient execution of these policies and a balanced distribution of burdens, benefits and interests in the area (Tweede Kamer der Staten Generaal, 1993). The recreatieschappen were financially supported by the government and provinces.

When in 1992 the national government decided to dissociate itself from recreational tasks and to transfer the responsibilities for recreation to provincial governments, they did not record this within the national law. At the moment no pre-defined tasks exist for the provincial governments with respect to recreation. The only tasks which were officially registered and which indirectly relate to the recreational sector are the tasks to take into account recreational spaces within the structural vision, to keep an eye on the compliance of the regulations with respect to environmental issues and to control and monitor clear and safe swimming water within the areas (Instituut voor Publiek en Politiek, 2010).

Alongside these few fixed regulations, the provincial government had the freedom to choose whether to take more responsibility within recreational issues. If they would like to do so, they sometimes could get a budget out of European subsidies or the provincial fund of the national government. However, in 1992 most provincial governments choose to decentralize these tasks again to the municipalities.

A provincial government who choose to keep the responsibility over almost all recreational areas was the province Zuid-Holland.

Recreatieschappen nowadays only depend on the financial contributions of the participating municipalities (and the province), income out of real estate rentals, leasing, admissions fees, parking- and water gate fees and subsidies. The participant contributions form the most important income sources for the recreatieschappen. This has to do with the societal character of their activities (Recreatie Midden-Nederland, 2011). They have to provide the necessary public facilities, which limit the opportunities for acquisition of revenues.

# **Appendix 2: Network theory**

#### 2.1 Characteristics of networks

Klijn (1996) states that networks have three characteristics in common. Firstly, within the networks mutual dependency exists between the actors. The existence of mutual dependencies is for most actors the most important reason to be involved. Dependency forms the fundament of the network (Aarts, Van Woerkum and Vermunt, 2007; Rhodes,1997; Teisman, 1992). The instruments the actors possess to solve these mutual problems can be distinguished into five different instruments namely: Production instruments, financial means, competences, knowledge and legitimacy (Kräwinkel, 1997; Koppenjan and Klein, 2004; Aarts et al, 2007). The dependency relations between the actors can be determined by the interests actors have in the resources of others. The level of dependency becomes higher when the resource is difficult to replace by other resources (Kräwinkel, 1997; Koppenjan and Klein, 2004). Actors will only take part in the network, if they can benefit from the relations between other actors in the network, who, for example, have more or better means to reach certain aims (Kräwinkel, 1997; Aarts et al., 2007). These dependencies are also important for the sustainability of the existence of the networks and participation.

Secondly, networks can be characterized by their pluralism or ambiguity. Decision making processes within networks are complex and divers because often several actors are involved. All these actors have got their own goals, interests and perceptions, however they cannot work autonomously. Actors can be influence by the performance of other actors in the network, because all actors need to perform according to the expectations of the other participants. "Networks form a context in which actors strategically perform and where to meet other strategically performing actors" (Koppenjan & Klijn, 2004, p. 10). If the actors would like to come to decisions, the most important goal is to more or less harmonize their perceptions and interests (Kräwinkel, 1997; Aarts et al., 2007).

The third feature is the existence of relations between network actors in a more or less sustainable way. Because the actors are mutually dependent, interactions and relations exist between them. When actors interact over a longer time, (informal) rules become to exist defining the behaviour and expectations of the actors and the separation of means between the actors. In this manner sustainable relations become to exist. The success of the network depends on the relations and connections between the actors (Kräwinkel, 1997; Aarts et al., 2007).

Another characteristic which is added by De Bruijn and Ten Heuvelhof (1995) is the closed nature of actors within the networks. The actors in the networks are still sovereign entities and therefore have a relatively closed character. Every actor has got its own framework and perceptions and is sensitive for statements which fit within his framework. Actors are often oriented towards their own goals and goals of like-minded. The network can only have success when laws and regulations within the network rely on the norms and values of the frameworks and perceptions of the cooperating actors. The frameworks of the actors are thus important for the level of openness of the actors (De Bruijn & Ten Heuvelhof, 1995).

To conclude, the actors and their interdependency, intentions, perceptions and frameworks, determine the success of the network. These factors make networks complex and dynamic and also unique (Aarts et al, 2007). Every network thus has to be explored and examined within its own context. To examine networks it is crucial to examine the involved actors on an individual base and to study the existing relations between them.

Networks can exist of all kind of forms. It can be formal and informal groups of people who commonly strive for the same goals, while keeping their own interests in the subject. Within this research networks can exist of individuals, organizations or associations which try to reach the common goal of maintaining or improving the quality of Brielse Meer, in whatever form this may be.

Because VPR is not yet sharing strategies with many other actors in the area, their network is likely to be small and not yet developed. However, network theory will be important for this study because the aim of Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg is to improve the management and development of Brielse Meer in cooperation with actors dealing with the same issues. VPR is dependent on the resources of other actors in the sector, because they notice themselves a lack of financial means to fulfill their tasks. In turn, there are other actors in the area which are dependent on VPR because they provide them a better leisure environment.

By means of embracing participation methods, they are likely to expand their network with interdependent actors who are able to cooperate over an enduring time period. This research will be open for creating a new network or by connecting existing networks of individuals, organizations and/or associations with the Recreatieschap of Brielse Meer.

The intention of this research is though not to suggest which actors should form the network in a concrete sense. It will only give direction to the question on what type of participation and actors VPR can possibly focus

To explore what actors might be involved in the participation network, the administrative network analysis of Koppenjan and Klijn (2004) can, with a few adaptations, form a good base to discover the potentialities for public participation in order to find a solution for the issues of Recreatieschap Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg. To explore what actors might be involved in the participation network, the administrative network analysis of Koppenjan and Klijn (2004) can, with a few adaptations, form a good base to discover the potentialities for public participation in order to find a solution for the issues of Recreatieschap Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg.

## 2.2 Administrative network analysis

The administrative network analysis is a method to study interactions and relations within a network. The theory offers a frame for analyzing the involved actors.

The administrative network analysis exists of three different parts namely:

- 1. the actor analysis;
- 2. the process analysis;
- 3. and the network analysis (Koppenjan and Klijn, 2004).

The connections between these three analyses give according to Koppenjan and Klijn (2004) insights in the complexity of policy processes. The actor analysis should give insights in the common problems of the actors involved. The process analysis focuses on thresholds and breakthroughs in the process. Finally, the network analysis exists of the institutional context of the decision making processes.

#### 2.2.1 Actor analysis

The actor analysis exist of four steps. It starts with finding a clear demarcation of the current problem. This can be done by interviewing VPR. The questions with which step one can be completed are shown below.

#### **Step 1 Problem definition:**

- What is the current situation of the problem?
- What is the origin of the problem?
- What is the ideal situation for VPR?
- What policy solutions and alternatives are offered to solve the problem?

This first step of the actor analysis is already partly answered in the introduction. Yet, it can be studied more intensively by interviewing VPR about the problem in the area. This will probably give more details about the actual problem in the area.

The second steps should explain what actors are involved in the problem

## **Step 2 Actors involved:**

- What actors will benefit from the problem solution?
- What actors are important or can realize the resolution of the problem?
- What actors are active in the resolution of the problem?

This will help to define what actors are important for the problem solution and thus gives an idea about what actors should be interviewed for this research.

## Step 3 Perceptions of the actors:

- What are the perceptions of the actors with regard to the problem?
- What are the perceptions of the actors with regard to the problem approach?
- What are the perceptions of actors with regard to other involved actors?
- To what extend differ the perceptions of the different actors?
- What thresholds can be explored from these differing perceptions of the actors?

In step 3 will be tested if these actors see the same problems as VPR. This step of the actors analysis will be executed with the help of the Theory of Planned Behaviour which will be explained in Paragraph 2.5 This theory explains what intentions and perceptions people have with regard to the participation and what the underlying motivations are for their intentions. This theory also includes exploration of thresholds and stumbling blocks for progress in the process.

#### Step 4 (Possible) positions of the actors in the network:

- What are positions of actors with regard to the problem?
- What are positions from the actors with regard to the problem approach?
- What dependencies exist with regard to the problem and what are dependencies between the actors?
- What instruments posses the actors?
- To what extend are these instruments replaceable?

The last step of this analysis is to define what instrument the actors posses and what dependency relations exist between the actors and their instruments (Koppenjan and Klijn, 2004) and what this means for their position within a possible network.

### 2.2.2 Process analysis

According to Koppenjan and Klijn (2004) the first step in the process analysis is about giving insights in the domains in which decisions can be made to solve the problem.

#### Step 1 determining the most important policy domains:

- In what domains are the most important decision made with respect to the problem?
- Are in these domains recognizable sets of actors involved?
- Do organizational facilities for exist?
- Can different sets of actors and decisions be recognized?

Defining the decision domains can give insights in possible locations in which actors can perform their strategies to influence the decision processes. It is important to know what decisions are made, or in this case, what decisions can be made in the domain and which actors can be involved.

## Step 2 Identify and analyze the progress in the process:

- What are the most important thresholds and motivations for cooperation?
- What actors are involved in the most important thresholds and motivations?
- What strategies choose these actors and in what way do these strategies differ from each other?

The second part is about finding out which actors possibly hinder the problem solution. This involves in fact the analysis of the results of the step 3 of the actor analysis (the Theory of Planned Behaviour).

To show the different strategies which exist to participate within a network, the theory of the participation ladder will be a handhold for defining the categories and levels in which people would like to or are able to participate.

## 2.2.3 Network analysis

The last phase of the network analysis deals with the analysis of the relations between the actors in the network. The network analysis exist of the identification of the interaction patterns between the actors and tries to obtain insights in the most important actors within the networks, their relations and mutual dependencies. Besides, it exists of the institutional context of the network. In the case of this research, there is not yet a developed network around the problems at Brielse Meer in which VPR is involved. On the one hand, it therefore becomes difficult to fulfill this last step of the network analysis.

On the other hand, this last step can more or less corresponds with the conclusion of this research. It will illustrate how Recreatieschap Voorne-Putten-Rozenburg can try to create the best possible cooperation between the actors involved, which actors they should involve and which can be left out and in what way cooperation should be structured.

# Appendix 3: General statistic analysis

# 3.1 Overview variables, number of respondents and mean

Questionnaire statement	Var.	N	Mean
Behavioural intention			
I would like to give my opinion	Q 6.1	195	3,59
I would like to give advice	Q 6.2	195	3,24
I would like to volunteer in maintenance activities	Q 6.3	195	2,56
I would like to volunteer in administrative tasks	Q 6.4	195	2,48
I would like to materially support	Q 6.5	195	2,32
I would like to be responsible for a part of the area	Q 6.6	195	2,49
I would like to be part of vision- an/or plan creation	Q 6.7	195	2,61
I don't know if I would like to participate, but I would like to be informed	Q 6.8	195	2,71
I don't want to participate	Q 6.9	195	3,75
Problem definition			-,
I knew about the changes in the area	Q 4.1	195	2,85
=	Q 4.1 Q 4.2		
There are enough possibilities to solve the problems		195	4,53
Quality loss of the area leads to negative consequences for myself	Q 4.3	195	3,96
It is important that the quality of the area remains or improves	Q 4.4	195	3,62
Problems are bigger than I expected	Q 4.5	195	3,64
Behavioural beliefs			
Contributing to activities or developments within the area			
satisfies me	Q 17.1	195	3,59
is something I like	Q 17.2	195	3,24
is way to be active in a social way	Q 17.3	195	2,56
is way to obtain knowledge and/or experience	Q 17.4	195	2,48
can help to solve personal problems	Q 17.5	195	2,32
can offer personal economic benefits	Q 17.6	195	2,49
is a way to achieve something	Q 17.7	195	2,61
is a challenge	Q 17.8	195	2,71
Evaluation of expected outcomes	Q 17.0	133	_,,,_
Cooperation with other parties in the area will not offer benefits	Q 19.5	195	3,14
There are enough possibilities to solve the problems	Q 4.4	195	3,62
I can make a difference in quality improvements in Brielse Meer	Q 19.7	195	3,10
I depend on others for a problem solution	Q 19.7 Q 19.4	195	
·			3,72
GZH is a good partner in cooperation	Q 24.5	195	2,80
Normative beliefs			
The quality of Brielse Meer is not my responsibility	Q 19.1	195	3,13
Brielse Meer has got a bad image	Q 19.2	195	2,61
Improving the area is a task of the government	Q 19.3	195	3,87
A better environment starts at your own	Q 19.6	195	4,20
I can make a difference	Q 19.7	195	3,10
Motivations to comply			
If family members will help the Brielse Meer, I will do so too.	Q 20.1	148	2,85
If friends will help the Brielse Meer, I will do so too.	Q 20.2	156	2,94
If members of my (sports)club will help the Brielse Meer, I will do so too.	Q 20.3	148	3,16
If colleagues will help the Brielse Meer, I will do so too.	Q 20.4	138	2,75
The opinion of others determines whether I participate or not	Q 20.5	161	2,32
If entrepreneurs will help the Brielse Meer I will do so too.	Q 21.1	13	3,30
The opinion of others determines whether I participate or not	Q 21.2	13	2,77

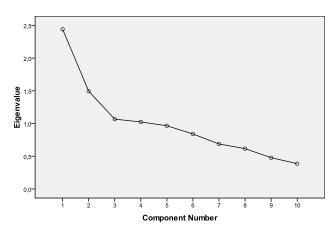
Behavioural control			
I don't have time	Q 22.1	195	3,51
I don't feel involved	Q 22.2	195	2,75
I don't have the financial means	Q 22.3	195	3,32
I don't know how to contribute	Q 22.4	195	2,98
My physical condition constrains me	Q 22.5	195	2,62
The distance is too far	Q 22.6	195	2,46
I don't have enough knowledge or experience	Q 22.7	195	2,77
I never have been asked to do so	Q 22.8	195	3,63
Trust in the organization			
GZH is an organization I trust	Q 24.1	122	2,82
GZH does what she can to maintain the quality of the area	Q 24.2	111	2,82
GZH take me seriously when I express complains or do suggestions	Q 24.3	111	2,82
GZH takes into account interest of other parties	Q 24.4	120	2,80
GZH is a good partner for cooperation	Q 24.5	108	2,80

# 3.2 regression analysis

# KMO and Bartlett's Test

Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of S	,635	
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity Approx. Chi-Square		141,364
	df	45
	Sig.	,000

# Scree Plot



# **Model Summary**

M	R	R Square	Adjusted R	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	,464	,215	,209	,54978
2	,552	,305	,294	,51951
3	,589 <sup>c</sup>	,347	,331	,50562

a. Predictors: (Constant), beh. beliefs

b. Predictors: (Constant), beh. beliefs, mot. To comply

# 3.3 Regression analysis

# $\mathbf{ANOVA}^{\mathsf{d}}$

Model		Sum of	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	10,516	1	10,516	34,791	,000ª
	Residual	38,386	127	,302		
	Total	48,902	128			
2	Regression	14,896	2	7,448	27,596	,000 <sup>b</sup>
	Residual	34,006	126	,270		
	Total	48,902	128			
3	Regression	16,945	3	5,648	22,094	,000 <sup>c</sup>
	Residual	31,957	125	,256		
	Total	48,902	128			

a. Predictors: (Constant), beh. beliefs

b. Predictors: (Constant), beh. beliefs, mot. To comply

c. Predictors: (Constant), beh. beliefs mot. To comply, control bel.

d. Dependent Variable: beh. intententions

# **Coefficients**<sup>a</sup>

		Unstandardized		Standardiz			Collinearity	
Mod	lel	В	Std. Error	Beta	t	Sig.	Tolera	VIF
1	(Constant)	1,602	,239		6,692	,000		
	Beh. beliefs	,460	,078	,464	5,898	,000	1,000	1,000
2	(Constant)	1,147	,253		4,535	,000		
	Beh. beliefs	,359	,078	,362	4,613	,000	,896	1,116
	mot. To comply	,260	,065	,316	4,029	,000	,896	1,116
3	(Constant)	2,192	,444		4,941	,000		
	Beh. beliefs	,295	,079	,297	3,729	,000	,823	1,216
	mot. To comply	,269	,063	,327	4,278	,000	,894	1,119
	Control bel.	-,297	,105	-,214	-	,005	,916	1,092

a. Dependent Variable: gembehint

# **Excluded Variables**<sup>d</sup>

					Partial	Collinearity
Model		Beta In	t	Sig.	Correlation	Tolerance
1	Mot. To comply	,316ª	4,029	,000	,338	,896
	Control bel.	-,198 <sup>a</sup>	-2,454	,015	-,214	,918
	trust	,038ª	,480	,632	,043	,991
	Prob. def	,176ª	2,257	,026	,197	,986
2	Control bel.	-,214 <sup>b</sup>	-2,831	,005	-,245	,916
	Trust	,047 <sup>b</sup>	,631	,529	,056	,990
	Prob def.	,118 <sup>b</sup>	1,549	,124	,137	,943
3	Trust	,058 <sup>c</sup>	,801	,424	,072	,987
	Prob def.	,136 <sup>c</sup>	1,842	,068	,163	,936

a. Predictors in the Model: (Constant), gembehbeliefs

b. Predictors in the Model: (Constant), gembehbeliefs, gemCOMBIcomply

c. Predictors in the Model: (Constant), gembehbeliefs, gemCOMBIcomply, gemcontrol

 $\mathbf{ANOVA}^{\mathsf{d}}$ 

Mode	el	Sum of	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	10,516	1	10,516	34,791	,000 <sup>a</sup>
	Residual	38,386	127	,302		
	Total	48,902	128			
2	Regression	14,896	2	7,448	27,596	,000 <sup>b</sup>
	Residual	34,006	126	,270		
	Total	48,902	128			
3	Regression	16,945	3	5,648	22,094	,000 <sup>c</sup>
	Residual	31,957	125	,256		
	Total	48,902	128			

a. Predictors: (Constant), beh. beliefs

b. Predictors: (Constant), beh. beliefs, mot. To comply

c. Predictors: (Constant), beh. beliefs mot. To comply, control bel.

d. Dependent Variable: beh. Intentions

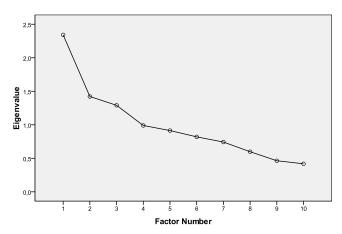
# **Appendix 4: Statistic analysis visitors**

# 4.1 Factor analysis

KMO and Bartlett's Test

Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure o	Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy.				
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	56,952			
	df	36			
	Sig.	,015			

Scree Plot



# 4.2 Spearman correlation test

		Beh.	Beh.	Prob.	Mot.	Contr.	tru
Behavioural	Correlation	1,00	,518**	,116	,330**	-,264 <sup>**</sup>	-
intentions	Sig. (2-tailed)		,000	,214	,001	,004	,96
	N	116	116	116	106	116	74
Behavioural	Correlation	,518*	1,000	,148	,413**	-,238 <sup>**</sup>	,10
beliefs	Sig. (2-tailed)	,000		,112	,000	,010	,35
	N	116	116	116	106	116	74
Problem	Correlation	,116	,148	1,000	,115	,140	-
definition	Sig. (2-tailed)	,214	,112		,242	,135	,66
	N	116	116	116	106	116	74
Motivations	Correlation	,330*	,413**	,115	1,000	-,083	-
to comply	Sig. (2-tailed)	,001	,000	,242		,399	,24
	N	106	106	106	106	106	72
Control	Correlation	-	-,238**	,140	-,083	1,000	-
beliefs	Sig. (2-tailed)	,004	,010	,135	,399		,36
	N	116	116	116	106	116	74
Trust	Correlation	-,006	,109	-,051	-,138	-,107	1,0
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,961	,355	,668	,247	,364	
	N	74	74	74	72	74	74

<sup>\*\*.</sup> Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

# 4.3 Regression analysis

# **Model Summary**

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R	Std. Error
1	,456 <sup>a</sup>	,208	,197	,57329
2	,516 <sup>b</sup>	,266	,245	,55571
3	,576 <sup>c</sup>	,332	,303	,53405

a. Predictors: (Constant), mot. To comply

b. Predictors: (Constant), mot. To comply, control bel.

c. Predictors: (Constant), mot. To comply, control bel., prob rec

 $\mathbf{ANOVA}^{\mathsf{d}}$ 

Model	I	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	6,038	1	6,038	18,371	,000 <sup>a</sup>
	Residual	23,007	70	,329		
	Total	29,044	71			
2	Regression	7,736	2	3,868	12,526	,000 <sup>b</sup>
	Residual	21,308	69	,309		
	Total	29,044	71			
3	Regression	9,650	3	3,217	11,278	,000 <sup>c</sup>
	Residual	19,395	68	,285		
	Total	29,044	71			

a. Predictors: (Constant), mot.comply

- b. Predictors: (Constant), mot.comply, control bel.
- c. Predictors: (Constant), mot.comply, control bel., probl rec.
- d. Dependent Variable: beh int

# Coefficients<sup>a</sup>

		Unstandardized		Standardiz			Collinearity	
Mod	el	В	Std.	Beta	t	Sig.	Tolera	VIF
1	(Constant)	1,809	,268		6,741	,000		
	Mot. To comply	,381	,089	,456	4,286	,000	1,000	1,000
2	(Constant)	2,879	,525		5,481	,000		
	Mot. To comply	,360	,087	,430	4,146	,000	,989	1,012
	Control bel.	-,338	,144	-,243	-	,022	,989	1,012
3	(Constant)	2,127	,583		3,651	,001		
	Mot. To comply	,310	,086	,370	3,621	,001	,939	1,065
	Control bel	-,401	,141	-,289	-	,006	,959	1,043
	Prob. Recog.	,269	,104	,266	2,590	,012	,929	1,077

a. Dependent Variable: beh. intentions

# **Excluded Variables**<sup>d</sup>

		Beta	a		Partial	Collinearity Statistics			
Model		In	t	Sig.	Correlation	Toleran	VIF	Minimum	
1	Beh. beliefs	,230ª	2,062	,043	,241	,869	1,151	,869	
	Problem def.	,215ª	2,023	,047	,237	,958	1,044	,958	
	Control bel.	-,243ª	-	,022	-,272	,989	1,012	,989	
	Trust	,060ª	,559	,578	,067	,983	1,018	,983	
2	Beh. beliefs	,179 <sup>b</sup>	1,590	,116	,189	,821	1,218	,821	
	Problem Def.	,266 <sup>b</sup>	2,590	,012	,300	,929	1,077	,929	
	Trust	,064 <sup>b</sup>	,610	,544	,074	,982,	1,018	,972	
3	Beh. beliefs	,124 <sup>c</sup>	1,107	,272	,134	,783	1,277	,783	
	trust	,074 <sup>c</sup>	,734	,466	,089	,981	1,019	,925	

a. Predictors in the Model: (Constant), Mot. To comply

# **Collinearity Diagnostics**<sup>a</sup>

ii -	-	_	Condition	Variance Proportions						
Model	Dimension	Eigenvalue	Index	(Constant)	Mot. To	Control	Prob. Def.			
1	1	1,968	1,000	,02	,02					
	2	,032	7,816	,98	,98					
2	1	2,939	1,000	,00,	,01	,00,				
	2	,051	7,578	,02	,78	,13				
	3	,010	17,520	,98	,21	,86				
3	1	3,921	1,000	,00,	,00,	,00,	,00,			
	2	,053	8,640	,01	,81	,09	,01			
	3	,018	14,611	,00,	,10	,40	,75			
	4	,008	21,666	,99	,09	,50	,23			

a. Dependent Variable: beh. intentions

b. Predictors in the Model: (Constant), Mot. To comply, control bel.

c. Predictors in the Model: (Constant), Mot. To comply , control bel., prob. Def.

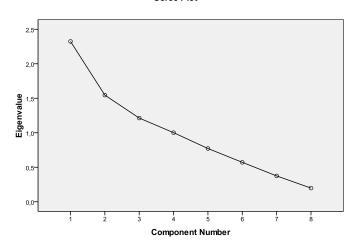
# Appendix 5: Statistic analysis members of associations

# 5. 1 Factor analysis

# KMO and Bartlett's Test

Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy.					
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-	5			
	df	2			
	Sig.				

Scree Plot



Rotated Factor Matrix<sup>a</sup>

	Factor			
	1	2	3	4
The quality of Brielse Meer is not my responsibility	,			
Cooperation with other parties in the area will not offer benefits	,			
A better environment starts at your own			,	
I can make a difference in quality improvements in Brielse Meer			,	
I depend on others for a problem solution				,8
Brielse Meer has got a bad image		-		
GZH is a good partner for cooperation		,		
I knew about the changes in the area		,		

Extraction Method: Principal Axis Factoring.

a. Rotation converged in 5 iterations.

# 5.2 Spearman correlation matrix

## Correlations

		Beh.	Beh.	Mot. To	Cont	Tru	Prob.
Beh.	Correlation	1,000	,625**	,422**	-	,31	,156
intentions	Sig. (2-tailed)		,000	,003	,041	,05	,284
	N	49	49	48	49	39	49
Beh. beliefs	Correlation	,625 <sup>**</sup>	1,000	,520 <sup>**</sup>	-	,13	,119
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,000		,000	,022	,43	,417
	N	49	49	48	49	39	49
Mot. To comply	Correlation	,422**	,520 <sup>**</sup>	1,000	,153	,26	,283
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,003	,000		,301	,11	,052
	N	48	48	48	48	38	48
Control bel.	Correlation	-,293 <sup>*</sup>	-,327 <sup>*</sup>	,153	1,00	-	,103
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,041	,022	,301		,89	,481
	N	49	49	48	49	39	49
Trust	Correlation	,314	,130	,261	-,022	1,0	-,043
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,052	,431	,113	,896		,794
	N	39	39	38	39	39	39
Prob. Def.	Correlation	,156	,119	,283	,103	-	1,000
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,284	,417	,052	,481	,79	
	N	49	49	48	49	39	49

<sup>\*\*.</sup> Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

# 5.3 Stepwise regression

# **Model Summary**

Мо	R	R Square	Adjusted R	Std. Error of
1	,677ª	,458	,443	,48629
2	,722 <sup>b</sup>	,522	,494	,46316

a. Predictors: (Constant), beh. beliefs

## $ANOVA^c$

Model		Sum of	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	7,184	1	7,184	30,378	,000ª
	Residual	8,513	36	,236		
	Total	15,697	37			
2	Regression	8,189	2	4,095	19,088	,000 <sup>b</sup>
	Residual	7,508	35	,215		
	Total	15,697	37			

a. Predictors: (Constant), beh. beliefs

b. Predictors: (Constant), beh. beliefs, trust

c. Dependent Variable: beh. intentions

# **Coefficients**<sup>a</sup>

Model	Unstandardized	Standardiz	t	Sig.	Collinearity
			-	- 0	,

<sup>\*.</sup> Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

b. Predictors: (Constant), beh. beliefs, trust

		В	Std. Error	Beta			Tolera	VIF
1	(Constant)	1,002	,385,		2,600	,013		
	Beh. beliefs	,695	,126	,677	5,512	,000	1,000	1,000
2	(Constant)	,469	,442		1,060	,296		
	Beh. beliefs	,674	,121	,655,	5,585	,000	,993	1,007
	Trust	,217	,100	,254	2,165	,037	,993	1,007

a. Dependent Variable: gembehint

#### **Excluded Variables<sup>c</sup>**

		Beta			Partial	Collinearity Statistics			
Mod	del	In	t	Sig.	Correlation	Tolera	VIF	Minimum	
1	Prob. def	,104ª	,845	,404	,141	,999	1,001	,999	
	Mot. To comply	,240ª	1,875	,069	,302	,862	1,160	,862	
	Control bel.	-,137ª	-	,312	-,171	,846	1,183	,846	
	Trust	,254 <sup>a</sup>	2,165	,037	,344	,993	1,007	,993	
2	Prob. Def.	,211 <sup>b</sup>	1,752	,089	,288	,890	1,124	,884	
	Mot. To comply	,185 <sup>b</sup>	1,448	,157	,241	,813	1,231	,813,	
	Control bel.	-,142 <sup>b</sup>	-	,272	-,188	,845	1,183	,840	

a. Predictors in the Model: (Constant), beh. beliefs

b. Predictors in the Model: (Constant), beh. beliefs, trust

c. Dependent Variable: beh. intentions

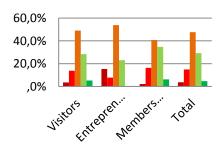
## Collinearity Diagnostics<sup>a</sup>

М	od Dime			Variance Proportions			
el	nsion	Eigenvalue	Condition Index	(Constant)	Beh. beliefs	Trust	
1	1	1,979	1,000	,01	,01		
	2	,021	9,668	,99	,99		
2	1	2,928	1,000	,00,	,00,	,01	
	2	,053	7,426	,02	,27	,80	
	3	,018	12,581	,98	,73	,19	

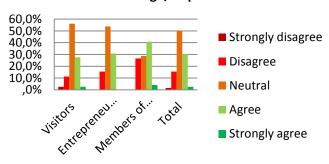
a. Dependent Variable: beh. Intentions

# **Appendix 6: Behavioural beliefs**

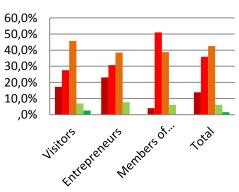
# 6.1 Contributing to quality improvements of Brielse Meer is fun



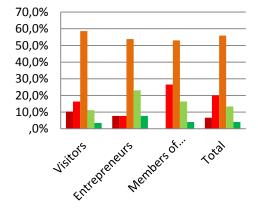
# 6.2 Contributing to quality improvements of Brielse Meer is way to obtain knowledge/ experience



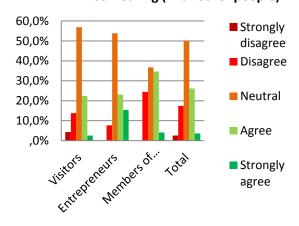
6.3 Contributing to quality improvements of Brielse Meer offers solutions to personal problems



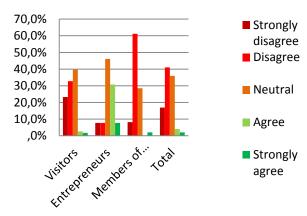
6.5 Contributing to quality improvements of Brielse Meer is challenging



6.4 Contributing to quality improvements of Brielse Meer is a way to achieve something (with other people)

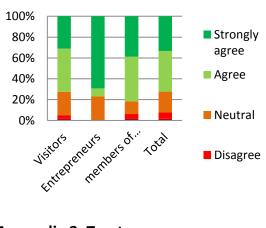


6.6 Contributing to quality improvements of Brielse Meer offers me personal economic benefits



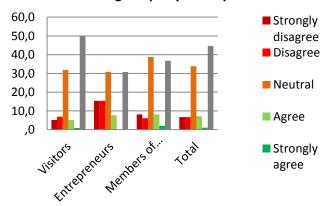
**Appendix 7: Problem recognition** 

7.1 Quality loss leads to negative consequences for myself

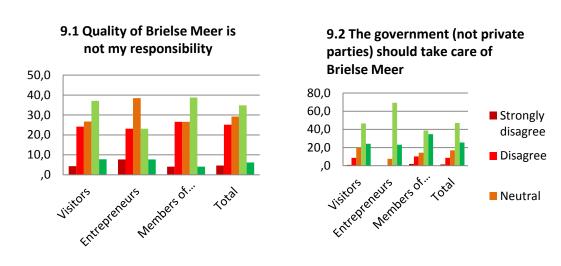


**Appendix 8: Trust** 

## 8.1 GZH is a good party to cooperate with



# **Appendix 9: Normative beliefs**



# **Appendix 10: Questionnaire Brielse Meer**

### Deel 1: Betrokkenheid

Op welke manier bent u betrokken bij het Brielse Meer?(Als u op meerdere manieren betrokken bent, kiest u datgene waar uw belang het grootst is)

- ☐ Ik ben recreant of toerist
- ☐ Ik ben ondernemer of werknemer met belangen bij het Brielse Meer
- Ik ben actief bij een vereniging die belang heeft bij het Brielse Meer (bv. u bent lid of bestuurder van een sportclub of andere organisatie)
- □ Anders namelijk:.....
- Geen van bovenstaande/ Ik ben op geen enkele manier betrokken bij recreatiegebied Brielse Meer

Op welke manier bent u betrokken bij werkzaamheden/ontwikkelingen in het Brielse Meer?

	Ja	Nee
Ik ontvang wel eens informatie over werkzaamheden en/of ontwikkelingen in het gebied (bv. via folders, social media, nieuwsbrieven, tv, face-to-face, internet of andere media)		
Ik geef wel eens mijn mening over werkzaamheden (bijvoorbeeld. d.m.v. een enquête, klachtenformulier, via VPRverandert.nl etc.)		
Ik geef wel eens advies over nog uit te voeren werkzaamheden (bv. in een debat, buurtgesprek, enquête etc.)		
Ik ben wel eens vrijwilliger in het beheer (bv. u voert kleine taken uit als grasmaaien, vuil prikken en het verrichten van klein onderhoud)		
Ik ben vrijwilliger voor bestuurlijke en administratieve taken		
Ik ben donateur/sponsor van een vereniging of stichting die de kwaliteit van het Brielse Meer in zekere zin verbeterd.		
Ik stel gratis materiaal beschikbaar voor werkzaamheden in het gebied (bv. gereedschap, werktuigen of bouwmaterialen)		
Ik ben verantwoordelijk voor grotere werkzaamheden en beslis daar ook over met VPR/GZH (u bent verantwoordelijk voor een deel van het beheer van het Brielse Meer, bv. rondom uw eigen terrein)		
Ik help structureel mee met de plan- of visievorming van het Brielse Meer (u werkt daarin nauw samen met GZH/VPR)		
Ik neem eigen initiatieven en breng deze in praktijk		
Ik ben op geen enkele manier betrokken bij werkzaamheden in het Brielse Meer		

# Deel 2: Bezuinigingen in het Brielse Meer

Ik lever op een andere manier een bijdrage namelijk: ..........

Zoals aangegeven in de introductie hebben het recreatieschap en GZH te maken met forse bezuinigingen. Dit zal naar alle waarschijnlijkheid de volgende gevolgen hebben. Voor recreanten betekent het dat:

- een aantal toiletvoorzieningen sluiten;
- verouderde bankjes verwijderd en niet vervangen worden;
- grasvelden minder of niet meer gemaaid worden;
- het aantal parkeerplaatsen afneemt;
- het aantal fiets- wandel- en ruiterpaden vermindert;
- aanlegsteigers niet vervangen worden;
- er slechts drie locaties in het gebied overblijven waar intensief onderhoud gepleegd wordt.

Voor ondernemers en verenigingen betekent dit:

- dat bij vernieuwing van contractperiodes de kans bestaat dat exploitatiekosten stijgen;
- dat zij wellicht in de toekomst een deel van het beheer rond de exploitatie voor eigen rekening moeten nemen.

De volgende vragen gaan over de bezuinigingsmaatregelen

Geef aan in hoeverre u het eens bent met de volgende stellingen.

	Zeer oneens	Oneens	Neutraal	Mee eens	Zeer mee eens
Ik was op de hoogte van voorgenoemde veranderingen die (gaan) plaatsvinden in het Brielse Meer					
Ik vind het belangrijk dat de kwaliteit van het Brielse meer behouden blijft of verbeterd wordt					
Kwaliteitsverlies van het Brielse Meer leidt tot negatieve gevolgen voor mijzelf					
Er zijn voldoende mogelijkheden om samen met anderen tot een probleemoplossing te komen.					
De problemen in het recreatiegebied zijn groter dan ik dacht					
Ruimte voor evt. opmerkingen m.b.t de bezuinigingen					
Geef aan in hoeverre u het eens bent met de volgende sto	ellingen.				
	Zeer oneens	Oneens	Neutraal	Mee eens	Zeer mee eens
Ik was op de hoogte van voorgenoemde veranderingen die (gaan) plaatsvinden in het Brielse Meer					
Ik vind het belangrijk dat de kwaliteit van het Brielse meer behouden blijft of verbeterd wordt					
Kwaliteitsverlies van het Brielse Meer leidt tot negatieve gevolgen voor mijzelf					
Er zijn voldoende mogelijkheden om samen met anderen tot een probleemoplossing te komen.					
De problemen in het recreatiegebied zijn groter dan ik dacht					
Ruimte voor opmerkingen m.b.t de bezuinigingen					'
Deel 3: Participatie en probleemoplossing Wij zijn benieuwd of u in de toekomst betrokken wilt zijn de volgende stellingen. Ik ben bereid (vaker)					
	Zeer oneens	Oneens	Neutraal	Mee eens	Zeer mee eens
mijn mening te geven over uitgevoerde werkzaamheder (bijvoorbeeld d.m.v. een enquête, buurtgesprek, klachtenformulier etc.)					
advies te geven over nog uit te voeren werkzaamheden					

(bv. in een debat, buurtgesprek, enquête etc.)					
vrijwilligerswerk te doen m.b.t. beheer (bv. u voert kleine taken uit als grasmaaien, vuil prikken en het verrichten van klein onderhoud)					
vrijwilligerswerk te doen m.b.t. bestuurlijke en administratieve taken					
gratis materiaal beschikbaar te stellen voor werkzaamheden in het gebied					
verantwoordelijk te zijn voor grotere werkzaamheden en daarover mee te beslissen (u bent verantwoordelijk voor een deel van het beheer van het Brielse Meer, bv. rondom uw eigen terrein)					
structureel betrokken te zijn bij visie- en planvorming van het Brielse Meer (u werkt nauw samen met GZH/VPR)					
eigen initiatieven te nemen en deze in praktijk te brengen					
Ik weet niet of ik betrokken wil zijn, maar wil wel op de hoogte blijven van ontwikkelingen (bv. via folders, social media, nieuwsbrieven, tv, face-to-face, internet of andere media)					
Ik ben op geen enkele manier bereid werkzaamheden te verrichten in het Brielse Meer					
Ik wil op een andere manier bijdragen aan werkzaamheden in	het Brielse M	eer nameli	jk:		
Bent u bereid in de toekomst entreegeld te betalen voor toe	gang tot het r	ecreatiege	bied?		
<ul> <li>□ Ja</li> <li>□ Nee</li> <li>□ Misschien (afhankelijk van de prijs)</li> <li>Bent u bereid in de toekomst parkeergeld te betalen voor uw auto in het recreatiegebied?</li> </ul>					
□ Ja					
□ Nee					
☐ Misschien (afhankeliik van de priis)					
□ N.v.t. Ik kom nooit met de auto					
Bent u bereid in de toekomst ligplaatsgeld te betalen voor de steigers in het recreatiegebied?					
□ Ja					
□ Nee					
☐ Misschien (afhankelijk van de prijs)					
□ N.v.t. Ik maak geen gebruik van de steigers in het gebied					
Wat is volgens u een acceptabel entreetarief (per bezoek in euro's)?					

Wat is volgens u een acceptabel parkeertarief (per uur in euro's)?

Wat is volgens u een acceptabel ligplaatstarief (per week in euro's)?								
Bent u bereid een vrijwillige bijdrage te leveren ter	verbeteri	ing van ı	ecrea	tiegebie	d het Briels	e Meer?		
Ja								
□ Nee								
☐ Misschien								
Wat vindt u een acceptabele vrijwillige bijdrage (pe	er jaar in e	euro's)?						
Ruimte voor evt. opmerkingen								
Geef uw mening over de volgende stellingen. Een b Brielse Meer	ijdrage le	veren a	an de	kwalitei	tsverbeterii	ng van recrea	ntiegebied	
Briefse Weet								
	Zeer on	eens	Oneens		Neutraal	Mee eens	Zeer mee eens	
biedt mij voldoening								
lijkt mij leuk								
is een goede manier om sociaal bezig te zijn								
is een goede manier om kennis/ ervaring op te doen op verschillende gebieden								
biedt een oplossing voor persoonlijke problemen								
biedt mij persoonlijk economische voordelen								
is voor mij een manier om (samen met anderen) iets te bereiken								
zie ik als een uitdaging								
☐ Ik heb and	dere moti	even na	melijk		••••			
Beantwoord de volgende stellingen.								
		Zeer oneen	S	Oneen	s Neutra	al Mee eens	Zeer mee eens	
Ik vind de kwaliteit van recreatiegebied Brielse Meer mijn verantwoordelijkheid	r niet							
Recreatiegebied Brielse Meer heeft een slecht image	0							
Ik vind dat de overheid (en niet de private sector) zo	org moet							

k ben afhankelijk van anderen voor de oplossing van het orobleem van het Brielse meer		et								
k verwacht dat samenwerking met alle belanghebbenden van het gebied weinig zal opleveren		en								
Een beter milieu begint bij jezelf										
Ik kan zelf een verschil maken in de kwaliteitsverbet van recreatiegebied Brielse Meer	erin	g								
Beantwoord de volgende stellingen.										
	-	eer neens	Oneer	ns	Neutraal	Mee ee	ns	Zeer me eens	е	N.v.t.
Als mijn familieleden besluiten het Brielse Meer te helpen (op welke manier dan ook), wil ik overwegen ook mee te doen										
Als mijn vrienden besluiten het Brielse Meer te helpen (op welke manier dan ook), wil ik overwegen ook mee te doen										
Als leden van mijn (sport)vereniging besluiten het Brielse Meer te helpen, wil ik overwegen ook mee te doen										
Als mijn collega's besluiten het Brielse Meer te helpen, wil ik overwegen ook mee te doen										
Of ik het Brielse Meer help hangt af van (meningen) van anderen										
Beantwoord de volgende stellingen.										
		Zeer	oneens	On	neens	Neutraal		Mee eens	Zee	er mee ns
Als (andere) ondernemers besluiten het Brielse Mee te helpen, wil ik overwegen ook mee te doen	er									
Of ik het Brielse Meer help hangt af van (meningen) van anderen	)									
Dit is de op één na laatste vraag. Wat houdt u tege Meer?	en e	en bijdr	age te le	evere	en aan de	kwaliteitsv	erbe	etering va	n he	t Brielse
		Zeer oneer	าร	On	eens	Neutraal	Me	ee eens		eer mee ens
Ik heb geen/weinig tijd										
Ik voel mij niet voldoende betrokken bij het gebied										
Ik heb beperkte financiële middelen										
Ik weet niet hoe ik een bijdrage kan leveren										

Ik ben fysiek niet in staat een bijdrage te leveren							
Ik vind de afstand te ver							
Ik heb niet voldoende ervaring of kennis							
Mij is r	nooit gevraagd om een bijdrage te le	everen					
		k zie andere	beperkingen	namelijk:		-	
Deel	4: Organisatie van recreati	egebied E	Brielse Mee	er			
	de laatste vraag. Geef uw mening o		rouwen dat u	heeft in GZH (	Groenservice	Zuid-Holland	doet het
benee	r, onderhoud en inrichting van het	gebied)				I	I
		Zeer oneens	Oneens	Neutraal	Mee eens	Zeer mee eens	Geen mening/ Weet ik niet
GZH is	een organisatie die ik vertrouw						
	oet wat zij kan om de kwaliteit van else Meer te behouden						
	eemt mij serieus wanneer ik met n en/of klachten kom.						
	oudt rekening met belangen van e partijen in het gebied						
GZH is een goede partij om mee samen te werken							
	☐ Ruimte voor evt. opmerkingen						
Laatst	e vragen:						
Ik ben	een						
	man						
	vrouw						
Mijn le	eeftijd is						
	20 of jonger						
	21 tot 35 jaar						
☐ 36 tot 50 jaar							
	51 tot 65 jaar						
	□ 66 of ouder  Wat zijn uw dagelijkse bezigheden?						
	Ik werk fulltime						
	Ik werk parttime						
	Ik ben student						
	Ik ben niet werkzaam/ gepens	sioneerd					

	Anders namelijk:
Vul hie	eronder de vier cijfers van uw postcode in
Hoe va	aak bezoekt u het Brielse meer
	1 of 2 keer per jaar
	2 tot 6 keer per jaar
	Maandelijks
	Wekelijks
	Dagelijks
	1 of 2 keer per jaar voor toeristisch verblijf van meerdere dagen
	Anders namelijk:
	as het dan alweer! Heeft u nog suggesties of opmerkingen met betrekking tot deze vragenlijst of de situatie in het Meer, dan kunt u deze hieronder kwijt.
en/of	logen wij u benaderen voor vervolgonderzoek m.b.t. het Brielse Meer? Zo ja, noteer dan hier uw naam, emailadres telefoonnummer en evt. de naam van uw organisatie. (Uw gegevens worden niet gebruikt voor nedoeleinden)