

The irrevocable urge to innovate. Public Innovations in Dutch Rural Policy

Author: Trond Selnes, LEI

The urge to innovate: why and how?

- Policy under pressure: change becomes urgent
- Reorientation of steering and relationships
- Increasingly: Dealing with uncertainty and ambiguity
- Strong call for sustainability
- Strong attraction towards innovation
- Enough triggers for change: why and how?
- How do institutions and change interact?
- Goal: understanding public innovation

Approach and products

- No fixation on failure
- The official stories and the offstage reactions
- Method: interpretive analysis
- Social constructivism: thick descriptions, triangulation, discourse
- Goal: plausible explanation
- Three cases:
 - Dynamics and renewal: 1990-1995
 - Regional renewal: 1995-2004
 - Transition Policy: 2001-2005
- Main product: Dissertation,
- Also:
 - Selnes, T.A., *Een kantelende overheid? Het transitiebeleid in de landbouw*, n Breeman, Goverde, Termeer, red, (2009), *Governance voor de groen-blauwe ruimte*
 - Selnes, T.A., *The Urge to Innovate. Public innovation through area based planning in the Netherlands*, paper Winelands International Conference on Public Management, Stellenbosch, South Africa, 2008.