

The complexity of value representation of residents from Vlieland and Terschelling in tourism policy



MSc Thesis

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Abstract

Managing marine environments becomes more and more challenging due to increasing pressure of human activities, like tourism. The Dutch Wadden islands Vlieland and Terschelling rely on tourism, but at the same time are characterized by iconic landscapes and ecosystem services, which asks for a balanced approach in policy. The use of a social-ecological perspective can be a help in management of coastal and marine ecosystems. Therefore, this thesis evaluated the role of value alignment in creating legitimacy. A total of 18 residents of Terschelling and Vlieland were interviewed about their values and views on policy. Although values were pluralistic, a clear distinction was made between intrinsic values of nature and instrumental. Also, desire for authenticity conflicted with policy focus on regional development. This played a large role in policy legitimacy. However, legitimacy was also dependent on the functioning of the larger governmental system, in which transparency, capability and integration were highlighted. Altogether, this creates prove of the interactions between policy and governance, and asks for a holistic, local, dynamic approach.

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1. Introduction

Marine environments are increasingly pressured through climate change and human polluting activities (Fudge et al., 2021). Consequently, managing marine systems becomes more and more challenging. Coastal and marine areas are hotspots for activities like shipping, fishing and tourism. These activities are fundamental for economic welfare but at the same time, over-exploitation of these areas is not uncommon, which threatens the well-being of nature (Papageorgiou, 2016). Therefore, nature conservation is a key aspect in marine resource management. In marine resource management, coastal and island communities have high stakes as their livelihoods and quality of life are to some extent dependent on the management of their surroundings. (Vanclay, 2012).

Development tourism industry can negatively impact coastlines (Mejjad et al., 2022). A widely-studied example is tourism development on Bali, causing enormous problems with traffic congestion, which has led to increased air pollution (Sri Astuti et al., 2024). Tourism in Europe has been growing and counts the most visitors of all continents, which has also led to environmental stress (Ruzza, 2010). In the Mediterranean, for example, the growth of the tourism industry has caused loss of environmental quality on the coastlines (Mejjad et al., 2022). The building of resorts, ecosystem damage by water sports, traffic pollution, sand depletion and new infrastructure are environmental impacts that European coastal areas are dealing with (Ellul & Europe, 1996).

The Dutch Wadden islands are a tightly coupled socioecological system (Heslinga et al., 2017) that can be highly affected by coastal activities, like tourism. The island populations rely heavily on tourism for their economy, but this can be detrimental to ecosystems, and habitats, as well as their way of life. The Wadden Islands also play an important conservation role, and contribute to the blue carbon objectives of the European union (CWSS, 2023). Therefore, nature conservation and tourism are both objectives in the Wadden MRM system. The representation of stakeholders in tourism policy is important, as it will affect their quality of life. However, the complexity of the management system and the diverse interests within different communities make it challenging to gain unanimous support for policy. This thesis will therefore look at legitimacy and the inclusion of values in policy in the Dutch Wadden area.

1.1 Case study

1.1.1 The Wadden Area

The Wadden Sea is the largest marine wetland of Europe (Enemark, 2005). The Wadden Sea covers a surface area of almost 11500 square kilometres. The area has unique geological and sociocultural features (Slob et al., 2016)), offers huge biodiversity, and is one of the most important areas for 30 species of migratory birds (Common Wadden Sea Secretariat, n.d.). In The Wadden area, there are 23 inhabited Wadden islands. The Wadden Islands start at Texel in the Netherlands and runs across Germany all the way to Skallingen in Denmark (figure 1). The Dutch Wadden islands are a total of 5 habited islands with a total of approximately 25.000 inhabitants.



Figure 1: A map of Terschelling and Vlieland (image by author, 2025)

The Wadden Area is home to a lot of different activities, including fishing, tourism, and shipping, which all put high pressure on habitats and biodiversity. Eutrophication, the spread of marine litter, oil pollution and bird egg contaminants are addressed threads in the Wadden Sea Quality Status Report (Klopper et al., 2017). In 2009, UNESCO recognized the 'Outstanding Universal Value' of the Wadden and granted the UNESCO World Heritage status to the Wadden Area. This highlighted the exceptional ecological value of the area. UNESCO especially acknowledges the geodiversity of the area, caused by its 'highly dynamic natural processes' (UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 2009), its landscape features that secure high biodiversity among fish, shellfish and birds. Also, it hosts a rich diversity in plants, which is praised for being uncommon in coastal wetlands. In total, 2300 different species are hosted in the salt marches and another 2700 in the marine areas (UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 2009). Altogether, UNESCO speaks of 'integrity' which refers to the "wholeness and intactness of the natural and/or cultural heritage and its attributes" (UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 2009).

Tourism plays a fundamental role at the Wadden Islands, and therefore also in its management. Millions of tourists yearly visit the Wadden area for its stunning nature and peace and quietness (Hartman & Sijtsma, 2018). The Wadden Islands are therefore highly economically dependent on tourism. The economic benefits from tourist activities carry high risk of damaging ecosystems through emissions, infrastructure, habitat disturbance and the demands on space (Common Wadden Sea Secretariat, 2023). It is likely that the World Heritage assigning has played a stimulating role in the attraction of tourists (J. Heslinga et al., 2018). Therefore, the challenges regarding environmental protection have grown. Signals of dissatisfaction have been sent through media platforms. E.g. terms 'Vliebiza' and 'Schiermonaco' are used widely, referring to the large tourism flow (Boeringa, 2024)

1.1.2 Tourism management in the Wadden Area

Tourism in the Dutch Wadden area is managed from different levels. Aside from local and national management, the islands are also managed by the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation (TWSC). The Single Integrated Management Plan, designed by TWSC to provide a strategy on managing economic activities in the Wadden Area, presents tourism as one of the five main topics. The guiding principle of the SIMP is “*to achieve, as far as possible, a natural and sustainable ecosystem in which natural processes proceed in an undisturbed way*” (CWSS, 2023, p.10). However, it also stimulates the implementation of the Sustainable Tourism Strategy, which aims for “development of sustainable tourism across the Wadden Sea World Heritage Area”. With the help of sustainable tourism, TWSC tries to embed conservation and tourism in one strategy.

Although sustainable tourism entails a symbiotic approach of nature conservation and tourism development, tourism and conservation have been proven to be conflicting in many cases (Buckley, 2011). Ironically, the aesthetics of a landscape strongly stimulates tourist activities (J. Heslinga et al., 2018). Within local communities, the tourism-conservation paradox is likely to play a role in their view on tourism policy. When the World Heritage Value was assigned to the Wadden Area, there was a lack of support from the local Dutch Wadden population, as well as from environmental and tourism organisations (Ashworth, 2006). because growth of the tourism sector was expected. This suggests that the view on tourism by local communities are shaped by more than just economic benefits.

The tourism strategy is translated into specific measures in in local and national policy documents. Trilaterally, regionally and locally, policy measures are made to regulate tourism. The policy measures are outlined below in Section 2.4.

1.1.3 Value alignment

As sustainable tourism policy needs to deal with these conflicting views on MRM, it is not an easy job for governing bodies to embed all different stakes in their management plan. UNESCO makes effort to enhance participation and involvement of local stakeholders. The 33rd session of the World Heritage Committee in 2009 states that as a requirement for the Wadden as a World Heritage “*Maintenance of consultation and participatory approaches in planning and management of the property is needed to reinforce the support and commitment from local communities and NGOs to the conservation and management of the property*”.

TWSS made these efforts to increase legitimacy by focusing on participation and involvement of local stakeholders. However, looking at the diversity in islands as well as the conflicting stakes in tourism, it could be challenging to reach a feeling of value representation for all communities. To quote an Amelander: “*The islands do not exist*”. In other words, collective values, beliefs, and interests differ per Wadden island. Every island has its own identity. The common vision and objectives that underly governance of the Wadden islands form to some extent the management measures taken at the islands. It is important that island residents still feel represented by this policy, regardless of the common strategy. This determines to some extent the functioning of the governance system (Lockwood et al., 2010).

The importance of value representation in policy can be theoretically explained by the three different orders of governance according to Kooiman (2003), stating that visions and worldviews that are on top of a governance system form, together with institutionalized governance and day-to-day management, a governance system. These visions and worldviews are not exclusively formed by governmental bodies, but of all stakeholders who are invited to participate in the process. According to Kooiman (2003), these orders should all be aligned to have a well-functioning governance system. This thesis will contribute to our understanding of the relationship between values, governance systems, and output legitimacy as understood through management measures.

This case study of the Dutch Wadden islands Vlieland and Terschelling is used to understand how values and management interact. The diversity of these two islands and their populations will provide a rich context for this. Besides the demographic and geographic differences between Vlieland and Terschelling, they host a different scale of tourism. Still, they share their economic dependence on tourism. The two situation sketches of Vlieland and Terschelling will help provide a deeper understanding of the relationship between values expressed through environmental policy and the people that it affects within a wider context of environmental governance.

To achieve this, the following research question will be answered: **How do residents of Vlieland and Terschelling perceive the representation of their values in tourism policy, and how does this affect the policy's legitimacy?**

The following sub questions will help answering the research question:

1. How do residents from Terschelling and Vlieland reflect on the core values in tourism policy?
2. How do their values play a role in their reflection on tourism policy?
3. How is output legitimacy linked to the tourism governance system for the Wadden islands?

2. Theoretical framework

This section will elaborate on the theory used to guide this research. First, marine resource management will be defined and why it is important to see MRM as a part of a social-ecological system. Then, the building blocks of Kooiman (2003) governance system are explained and how our research fits into this. Subsequently, legitimacy and its categorization is defined, where I clarify the focus on output legitimacy in this research. Then, the role of values in the governance system is explained and operationalized by introducing a human-nature relationship framework. Lastly, the policy measures are demarcated based on its nature conservation and tourism interface.

2.1 Marine resource management

Natural resource management is a multi-faceted approach to managing resources in a sustainable way. In marine context, this often focuses on human activities such as fishing, energy production, shipping, and tourism. Typically, the challenge of MRM is finding the right balance between biodiversity conservation and socioeconomic viability (Klein et al., 2008). Interests and values in nature, economy, and culture define the ‘right’ balance and consequently determine MRM measures.

Social-ecological systems is a concept based on the intricate connections between social and ecological systems, and the ways that these two impact one another. The term “linked social-ecological systems” has been a popular term used to describe the human interactions with natural systems in literature of e.g. Ostrom (Blomquist, 2009). Social-ecological systems is a concept that based on the intricate connections between social and ecological systems, and the ways that these two impact one another. The goal of MRM is to find a sustainable way to go about resource access and/or use. By applying Ostrom’s interdisciplinary approach on resource systems, impacts on local communities can be assessed by learning more on the interactions between elements like governmental systems, resource users, and resources systems (Ostrom, 2009). This approach helps us think in custom-made solutions instead of one-size-fits-all solutions for one aspect of the system, without taking into account the rest of the conditions (Ostrom, 2009). In natural resource management, this approach stimulates to take into account users and their views on resources and governance systems.

2.1.1 Marine resource management and governance

MRM is embedded in a governance system. In order to understand this, the difference between governance and management should be defined. Governance is often defined as regulatory processes and mechanisms that decide on ‘the rules of the game’, and does not only include governments but also market actors and civil society, like NGOs, businesses and communities (Lemos & Agrawal, 2006). It is about the division of power, how decisions are made, and by whom. Management is about coordinating the right activities, resources and people to achieve set goals (Worboys et al., 2015).

To portray this, Kooiman (2003) makes a distinction between three orders of governance: meta-governance, second-tier governance and first-tier governance. First tier governance includes day-to-day problem solving and creating new opportunities. This starts with identifying

problems and solving them (Kooiman & Jentoft, 2009). Second-tier governance is about the institutionalized way of governing. This provides the tools for first-tier governance. Meta governing is the ‘governing of governing’. At the basis of meta governance, is a meta theory, which is defined as a set of assumptions about what is ideal in governance. Meta governance relates to both second and first tier governance, as this set of assumptions shapes the way that a system is governed instructionally and in problem-solving. This vision of governance does not only include the state, but also the public and private actors at all levels. (Kooiman & Jentoft, 2009). They cannot function without one and another.

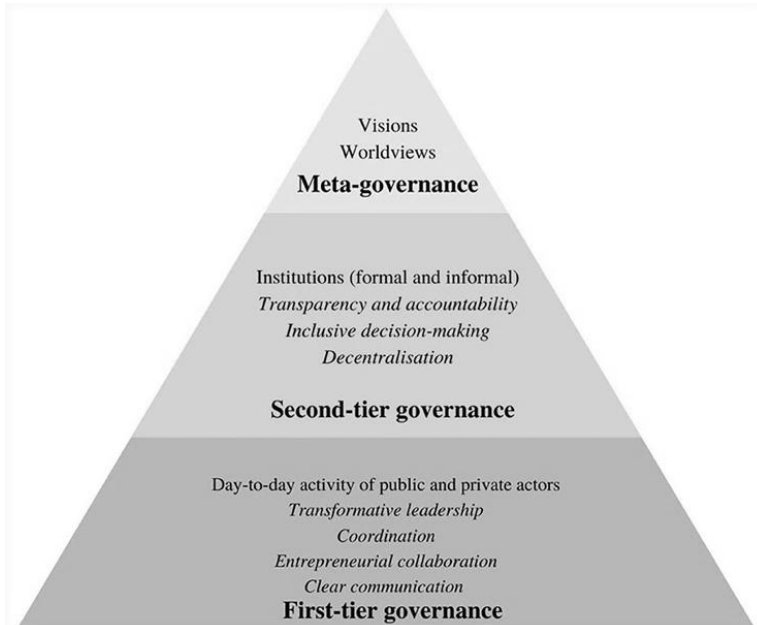


Figure 3: Orders of governance by Kooiman (Lord & Prior, 2024)

This thesis focuses on the relationship between first tier governance and meta-governance. The meta-theory defines the priorities we set and the aims that roll out of this. A system cannot be governed well if set priorities based on value systems do not match with the way problems are solved (Lockwood et al., 2010). According to Kooiman & Bavinck (2013), the quality of governance, referred to as ‘governability’, is partly determined by the quality of these orders. To measure performance of the functioning of such governmental system, and therefore the coordination between the three tiers of governance, Kooiman (2003) uses the concepts ‘legitimacy’ and ‘effectiveness’. Legitimacy is used to assess the functioning of the ‘institutionalized care’. The extent of effectiveness is used to assess the tuning of meta-governance with day-to-day problem solving. Kooiman adopts a conceptualization, where legitimacy is defined as what many scholars nowadays call ‘input legitimacy’. Effectiveness is nowadays often seen as ‘output legitimacy’, as it describes the (subjective) capability of managing. In the next chapter, legitimacy will be conceptualized and placed into the context of Kooiman’s governance system.

2.2 Legitimacy

2.2.1 Legitimacy and its subjectivity

Legitimacy is a widely studied concept within environmental governance with large amount of definitions. Suchman defines legitimacy as “a generalized perception or assumption that the actions of an entity are desirable, proper, or appropriate within some socially constructed system of norms, values, beliefs, and definitions” (Suchman, 1995, p.574). Legitimacy is

subjective as it is dependent on how it is perceived. The assumption is that legitimacy increases when organisations align with society's values and beliefs. However, when society does not notice diversions of society's values, legitimacy will not be affected (Suchman, 1995). In other words, people respond according to how they see it.

2.2.2 Types of legitimacy

Legitimacy can be gained in multiple ways. A common classification of legitimacy sources are input and output legitimacy, introduced by Scharpf (1999). Input legitimacy refers to the decision-making process, which is dependent on the extent to which people participate and the participatory quality (Risse, 2006). Stimulating involvement of people with participative events can be a strategy to increase input legitimacy. Scharpf (1997) describes output legitimacy this as 'the capability of achieving the goals that citizens collectively care about'. This means in theory that policy has output legitimacy when it resonates, from the eyes of the public, with the values and ideas of them (Schmidt, 2013; Boedeltje & Cornips, 2004), and when is it effective. The bridge between input and output legitimacy is considered a black box by a lot of scientists in the field. Therefore Schmidt (2013) added a third source of legitimacy in the framework, called 'throughput legitimacy'. Throughput legitimacy includes the transparency and efficacy of decision-making processes (Schmidt, 2013). This concept ultimately bridges the relationship between input legitimacy and output legitimacy, and therefore unravels this black box. A lack of throughput legitimacy can be one reason for a lack of output legitimacy, e.g. when policy is not communicated properly.

2.2.3 The relationship between input and output legitimacy

Scholars regularly interlink input and output legitimacy with each other, causing trade-offs or reinforcements. This thesis however, builds on the idea that output legitimacy is not the consequence of input legitimacy, which is a growing view in the academic world (Steffek, 2015). Aside from the fact that the public interest must be heard in order to be incorporated in policy, a strong participative governmental framework cannot guarantee an outcome that incorporates the public interest. This is reflected in case studies done by Suškevičs (2012). He found that sometimes stakeholders were well-represented in the decision-making process, but their interests were not represented in output policy. This suggests that both democratic processes as inclusive policy content must be established to create a legitimate management system.

This thesis will look into the processes of establishing legitimacy of policy among local islanders. As policy is the output in governance, this thesis will focus on output legitimacy. As described, both input and throughput legitimacy are influential elements in the rise of output legitimacy. Therefore, they will not be the main focus in the research, however, they are key to understand the interaction of output legitimacy with the governance system.

2.2.4 Output legitimacy in governance

This link between the types of legitimacy is built on the theory that output legitimacy is not just derived from management measures, but also from a well-functioning governance system. In order to gain understanding of the interaction between values and output legitimacy, it is of importance to take into account the governance system build around this. Meta-governance is the unifying factor in this, being in the top of the pyramid. This thesis uses the definition of

output legitimacy by Scharpf (1997, p19): “*the capability of achieving the goals that citizens collectively care about*”. This definition connects first tier with meta governance, because policy should be effective as well as achieving the ‘right’ goals. As mentioned above, Kooiman (2003) uses the term ‘effectiveness’ as a way to assess this relationship. The concept ‘output legitimacy’ builds on the idea that effectiveness and legitimacy have a positive relationship (Hogl et al., 2012). Effectiveness is where output legitimacy interface with the other types of legitimacy, as effectiveness also comes from process and communication. Scharpf (1999) even argues that governance systems, dependent on multilateral formations, can only create legitimacy with output.

Still, this thesis beliefs that output legitimacy is connected to meta governance with the use of the good governance principles of Lockwood et al. (2009), specifically designed for natural resource management. These define important process and communication characteristics. They define legitimacy as one of the principles for a functioning governance system. Lockwood et al. (2009) sets two conditions for legitimacy; being governed at the lowest level as this can be effectively done and integrity, referring to honesty and clarity, in terms of communication. This connects to the other principles, being transparency, accountability, inclusiveness, fairness, integration, capability and adaptability. These can all be related to value inclusion in processes. They refer to the way that values in policy are communicated and embedded; if policymakers have the skills and integrity to represent values; if interests are represented equally; if they can adapt to changes in value systems; and if values are aligned in different levels and institutions. Therefore, it is argued that these principles provide an environment that allows output legitimacy. In order to make this into practice, Healey (2020) pleas for adaptive, dynamic governance. Methods, like evaluations from time-to-time can be set in place to enable such governmental system. The values, their role in output legitimacy and governance, and operationalisation will be further elaborated on in the next section.

2.3 Values

Values determine the way that we look at the world and cause people to make different decisions. (Schwartz & Bilsky, 1987, p.551) fit five features of values in one definition being “concepts or beliefs about desirable end states or behaviours that transcend specific situations, guide selection or evaluation of behaviour and events and are ordered by relative importance.” According to this definition, Schwarz established the theory of basic human values, which is one of the most used frameworks in value-focused studies. This is a set of ten values: Self-direction, stimulation, hedonism, achievement, power, security, conformity, tradition, benevolence, and universalism. Many studies have been dedicated to connecting these values to attitudes, opinions, behaviour etc. (Schwartz et al., 2012).

2.3.1 Values in environmental studies

Values in this thesis is operationalised as value orientations. Value orientations refers to the expression of values, which are visible through someone’s beliefs. They can help to understand people’s concrete view on the way people look at natural resource management (Buijs, 2009). In studies on environmental behaviour, attitudes and worldviews, a more specified framework or model is often considered that describes values in environmental issues, based on value

orientations. developed the model of inclusion (Schultz et al., 2005). This model indicates the extent of interconnectedness of people with nature. Braitto et al. (2017) did make use of the Schwarz values to develop its human-nature relationships (HNR) framework. HNR does not only represent values but also beliefs of how interactions between nature and humans should be (Braitto et al., 2017). Just like the value orientation nuance, these HNR are thematically closer to environmental issues, as they are more specified on how people look at how we should interact with nature, while the Schwarz value on itself needs additional interpretation or translation to connect them to MRM. This is why this thesis uses the work of Braitto et al. (2017) to interpret MRM policy.

2.3.2 Values operationalized as human-nature relationships

The HNR framework consists of 7 different narratives: Master, Steward, Partner, Participant, User, Apathy, and Nature Distant Guardian (table 1). However, 'Nature Distant Guardian' is not included in the framework adapted for this thesis. As this study focuses on tourism in the Wadden Islands, the assumption is made that everyone has some kind of relationship with nature. In the paper of Braitto et al. (2017), this HNR type assumes isolation from nature (e.g. due to living in the city).

Table 1: Human-nature relationship framework

HNR	Explanation	References
Mastery	Humans are superior to nature and meant to control nature in a way to improve nature's capability to provide resources. Humans have more value than nature. Only nature that is of use for humans should be conserved.	(Muhar & Böck, 2018) (de Groot et al., 2011).
Stewardship	Human performance could impact nature. However, humans have the responsibility to conserve nature. This is about caring about nature, although we stand higher in the hierarchy than nature.	(de Groot et al., 2011).
Partnership	Nature is important and humans and nature are valued equally. We should collaborate with nature, not place ourselves higher than nature. It is very much about the relationship we have with nature. We should only alter nature if both humans and nature benefit	(Braitto et al., 2017) (de Groot et al., 2011)
Participant	Humans are guests in nature. We have no right to make adjustments to nature. Nature has intrinsic value, and is therefore important on its own, even if they are of no use for humans.	(Braitto et al., 2017)
User	Nature is a provider of resources. We have the right to use nature and stimulate ecosystem services with alterations.	(Braitto et al., 2017) (de Groot et al., 2011)

	Nature should be protected for the wellbeing of now and future generations.	
Apathy	No impact on nature, not important enough to focus on protection	(Braitto et al., 2017)

2.3.3 The role of values in marine resource management

Environmental problems are understood through values of humans (Schultz et al., 2005). Values shape the glasses on how people look at their environment. This strongly impacts the preferred way of managing marine resources. Brennan (2018) portrays this with an example about conserving biodiversity, which is considered as ‘good’ or ‘necessary’ by a lot of people. Still there could be different reasons why. It could be because of its economic value. A place like the Great Barrier Reef attracts a lot of tourists, especially when the coral is healthy and colourful. Another reason for people to encourage conservation is its ecological value. Here, intrinsic value of nature could play a determining role. These different reasonings are a consequence of differences in value systems, which eventually also leads to different management approaches (Endter-Wada et al., 1998). When something is conserved just because for its aesthetics, like coral reef in diving spots, you might choose to focus on the most colourful corals and fishes. When the ecological value is the driving force to keep conserve corals, you might focus more on ecosystem engineers and organisms with high-valued ecosystem services.

People’s beliefs and values have to be understood with regard to the role of humans in nature in order to understand their attitudes towards management (Fischer, 2010). So, values do not only simply define what and to what extent it is important to protect, they also define the human conceptual system related to nature (Endter-Wada et al., 1998). The economic aspect can relate to a ‘user’ or ‘mastery’ relationship, while the ecological aspects is more a consequence of a ‘participant’ or ‘stewardship’ relationship

2.3.4 Human-nature relationships in tourism

The balance between positive and negative effects of tourism determines for local communities their opinion about it (González et al., 2019). How this balance is perceived, is partly determined by their relationship with their environment. HNR define the positionality of tourism against nature (Fennell & Butler, 2003). This can define priorities in tourism policy considering environmental protection, so where people place themselves and their desires with respect to the value of nature. Also, this determines the way that environmental protection is managed, e.g. through forbidding tourism in certain areas or combining tourist activities with conservation or educative activities. According to Dowling (1993), the relationship can be ‘integrated’, meaning that multiple HNR can define attitudes towards tourism. This relates to the purpose of the HNR framework, which is used as a tool to define views on nature and tourism rather than quantifying value orientations. Figure 4 presents a way to interpret the relationship between human-nature relationships, values, governance and legitimacy.

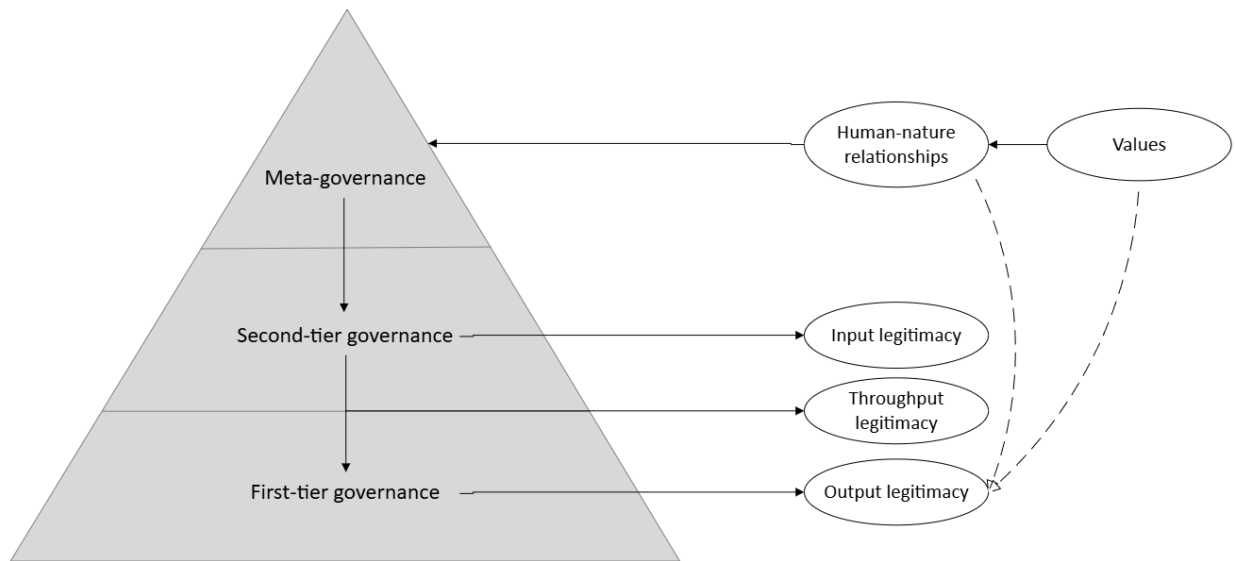


Figure 4: Schematic diagram of theoretical framework (made by author, 2025)

2.4 Tourism policy at Terschelling and Vlieland

This thesis has the focus on output legitimacy, which is derived from first-tier governance. This means I look at legitimacy regarding specific measures in tourism policy. Specifically, it is about the way that tourism and nature conservation are intertwined in policy. Therefore, the measures that cross both of these topics are demarcated in this research.

According to the Trilateral Sustainable Tourism strategy, the ‘key ingredients for tourism’ are transport, accommodation, and gastronomy. We acknowledge this, however, we are interested in human-environment relationships. Therefore, we do not take the whole set of tourism-related policy measures. We specifically focus on tourism measures on issues that potentially influences the way that is delt with nature. Therefore, we recategorize as: Transport & infrastructure, Accommodation, and Recreational activities.

The culinary and product use part of gastronomy is left out, as this does not cross both of the tourism and nature disciplines. However, the abundance and location of gastronomic buildings can affect nature and is therefore included in transport & infrastructure. Also, ‘Recreational activities’ is added to the categories, as there is more to recreational activities than only transportational activities, like hiking and biking. This can also include water sports and events, like festivals.

This study will focus on the following specific measures

- Transport & infrastructure
 - Network of trails
 - No new marinas may be built
 - Car accessibility: Terschelling may be accessed by cars, Vlieland may not)
- Accommodation

- Construction of holiday stays: in nature areas, recreative housing may only be built to replace another stay.
- Campsite locations, limits on visitors
- Recreational activities
 - Festivals event management
 - Water sports restrictions: no kitesurfing allowed
 - Closed areas: places where tourists (seasonally) may not enter

3. Methodology

This section explains and justifies the method that was used to answer the research questions. First, the choice for a descriptive research design with the use of a comparative case study is explained. After this, the choice for Vlieland and Terschelling is justified by giving a small overview of the differences and similarities of the islands. Subsequently, the way that policy analysis and interviews are performed and the sampling method is explained, just as the way that they will contribute to the research questions, with the help of preliminary interview guides. Lastly, the data analysis section expands on the coding methods.

3.1 Research design

This thesis made use of qualitative research. The type of research is descriptive. This is appropriate for identifying trends in legitimation of policy without the need to quantify it.

This thesis applied a comparative case study, as this can be used to compose generalizations across more than one cases (Knight, 2001). Two cases of Vlieland and Terschelling will be compared. A case study is an advantageous method when “a ‘how’ or ‘why’ question can be asked about a contemporary set of events over which the researcher has little or no control”(Yin, 2009, p13) As we argue that the Dutch islands are all very different, getting a case study of two islands can help getting a wider variety of knowledge on the legitimacy of tourism policy on the Wadden Islands, and allows contrast between the cases (Meyer, 2001). The use of a case study can provide a new perspective on legitimacy in a specific setting (Thomas, 2011). Terschelling and Vlieland were chosen for this study because of its contradicting characteristics. Interviews and policy analysis will be used as a methodological tool to make this descriptive comparison. An explanation of data collection and analysis is provided in Section 3.2 and 3.3, but first a short overview is given of Terschelling and Vlieland.

3.1.1 Overview of Terschelling and Vlieland

Terschelling and Vlieland share quite some similarities. They are both Frisian islands that have their port located at Harlingen. The ferry ride is for both islands longer than for the other islands. Nevertheless, the islands attract a lot of tourists every year. Tourists will, however, encounter differences in land use, geological features and demographics.

Terschelling is the second-largest Dutch Wadden island. It has a surface area of 674 km² and 4899 inhabitants. These live in the one of the 12 villages that Terschelling hosts. The east of the island is very agriculture-oriented, while the west is more focused on the sea and marine activities. The island attracts many tourists every year, especially during the Oerol theatre festival. Also, Terschelling is known for its popularity among college students, who spend their holidays on campings and cause disturbance.

Vlieland is the smallest Dutch Wadden Island, with a surface area of 316 km² and 1258 inhabitants. They are all centered in only one village, also called Vlieland. The north-east of the island is covered with dunes and the village, with the harbour and marina. Here are also a lot of holiday stays located. The south-east of the island is covered with polder. Vlieland is very

popular among upper middle-class people from the city, and is for tourists not accessible by car. Also, the yearly festival 'Into The Great Wide Open' attracts a lot of tourists.

3.2 Policy analysis

First, a policy analysis was done to gain understanding of the core values embedded in trilateral and local policy. The analysis was done by a thematic analysis on the most fundamental policy strategy documents in the Wadden Area: the Sustainable Tourism strategy (ST₂₀₁₄), and the Wadden Sea Plan (WSP₂₀₁₀), as well as the local tourism strategy documents of Vlieland and Terschelling: 'Toeristisch beleid gemeente Vlieland' (VL₂₀₂₄) and 'Toeristische toekomstvisie Terschelling' (TS₂₀₀₇). This policy analysis was rather explorative. First of all, it was to distillate the most crucial policy measures in the area that was used as guidance in the interviews. Also, the analysis helped answer sub question 1. It allowed me to, apart from getting to know people's perceptions of certain policy values and measures, actually find value clashes or alignments as a potential explanation for their feelings.

The policy analysis was executed according to themes derived from the HNR framework. This means that this analysis was done in a deductive manner. The HNR based on value orientations have been established and reviewed in many studies regarding environmental behaviour (de Groot et al., 2011), which gives trust for an inclusive thematic framework. As human-environment relationships are identified based on interpretation, a thematic analysis is an appropriate tool to connect policy ideas to HNR (Vaismoradi et al., 2016).

3.3 Resident interviews

The resident interviews were conducted at Vlieland and Terschelling. In a fieldwork period of two weeks, a total of 18 interviews was conducted, of which 10 on Vlieland and 8 on Terschelling. Interviews were done rather than surveying because interviews allow for a more detailed exploration of someone's values as well as reduce the chance of missing out on input (Kenter et al., 2015; Liburd & Becken, 2019). Also, this thesis objective is not to look for quantification of people's opinion on tourism policy, but to create more knowledge on what drives people to support policy. This provided a collection of values in tourism policy, as well a general image of what drives them to support policy. In the end, these interviews form the basis for answering sub question 1,2 and 3.

3.3.1 Interviewee sampling

People were sampled by a combination of convenience sampling and snowball sampling. First, people were approached on Facebook and people known via friends or family were approached. Facebook also helped me to arrange accommodation at local residents' places. This was also an easy way to gain access in the population (S.Lewis-Beck et al., 2004). Presumably, the interviewees and accommodation hosts were asked for potential interviewees. This gave the opportunity to get into contact with the 'hidden population', so people who might not be accessible in public places (S.Lewis-Beck et al., 2004). The convenience sampling provided a first entrance into the island populations, but along the snowball sampling, the author kept track of securing a certain amount of diversity in terms of interests in tourism.

3.3.2 Semi-structured interviews

In comparative case studies, semi-structured or unstructured interviews are common methods (Barlett & Frances, 2016). In this research, semi-structured interviewing was applied. This was done with the philosophy that the island residents have limited time, and a certain amount of structure would secure quality of the results. However, a bit of flexibility is required to be able to dig deeper in order to get to know their values (Meyer, 2001). Semi-structured interviews will prevent overlooking perceptions of human and nature or certain policy measures that might be important to someone (S.Lewis-Beck et al., 2004). The interviews were done individually, as this allows the residents to open up and not get influenced by other participants (DiCicco-Bloom & Crabtree, 2006). The interviews lasted between 45 and 60 minutes, so that there was enough room to get all questions answered, as well as room for storytelling, which is a widely-used method in discovering underlying values (DiCicco-Bloom & Crabtree, 2006).

3.3.3 Interview guide

Before the interviews were started, the interviewees were asked to sign a consent form to record and transcribe the interviews (appendix 3). The interview guide consisted of three parts. It first focused on general questions about people's definitions and appreciation of nature and their views on nature/tourism management. This is according to the method of (Buijs, 2006) to get to know their value orientations towards nature. This can include questions, like "How important is nature for you" and "How would you balance nature and human activities in management?". This was not used for the value set of residents. It rather served as a strategy to help people to become familiar, and to create a reference point refer to later in the interview, allowing a deeper understanding of their answers. The HNR framework was not exposed to the interview participants, in order to prevent biased answers. Then a set of questions was asked about specific policy measures. This allowed me to read into values that they base this opinion on, as well as get a feeling for how this impacts their sense of legitimacy for policy. This included questions, like "what do you think of this island being car-free for visitors?", "What is the reason for this?". Here, there is also room for unplanned follow-up questions to get to know their motivations. Also, answers of the first part of the interview guide can be used for this. The interview will end with questions on legitimacy of tourism policy. These fetch their motivations for supporting policy. Here, questions were asked, like "Do you feel like the tourism policy addresses issues that you care about", and "Are you satisfied with how tourism is managed?".

3.3.4 Interview coding

After the interviews were conducted, they were transcribed, and coded with the use of Atlas.ti qualitative data analysis software. The interviews were analysed with the use of thematic analysis (Braun & Clarke, 2021). Thematic analysis was used to explore certain patterns in values and motives for legitimacy. This was done inductively, so themes were constructed according to the data content (Braun & Clarke, 2021). First, open coding was applied, whereafter the rough codes were structured in themes and subthemes. There were two main themes: the first one was 'rules and values', divided into 'environmental values', 'cultural values' and 'economic values'. These included not only quotes on values behind opinions on policy measures, but also beliefs connected to preferred strategy tools. The second one was 'legitimacy', divided into 'output legitimacy', 'institutional' and 'non-institutional'. This included motivations for (lack

of) alignment, reasons for input and throughput legitimacy, and (in)valued processes outside institutional arrangements, like local ownership. After the coding, questions were asked like “what does group 1 say and what does group 2 say?”, “What are the overlaps and differences in themes that occur in group 1 and in group 2?” (Boeije, 2002).

3.4 Positionality

It is essential to be conscious of my positionality, as my background is different from the researched area. My name is Silvie, I am 23 years old and I am born and raised in the city Nijmegen in the Netherlands. I moved to Amsterdam for my Bachelor studies in sustainability science with a minor in Freshwater & marine biology. I have been living in Amsterdam ever since, also during my Master’s in Wageningen on Aquaculture & marine resource management, with a special interest in marine governance.

My interest in the Wadden Islands come from my passion for marine and coastal ecosystems, and for that reason my many visits to the islands. Especially Texel, where I stayed a few weeks during my bachelor thesis and where my mom took me often as a child, as she partly grew up there, but I have also been to Terschelling and Vlieland. As I have an interdisciplinary background in sustainability and marine studies, I am interested in looking at the Wadden islands from a social-ecological perspective.

As I am not from the Wadden Islands, I don’t know how it is to live in such environment. This could lead to assumptions regarding community-feeling and values. For example, the extent to which people are connected with their surroundings and what people find important could impact this research. This could affect the choice for interview questions and the assumption that people actually care about tourism policy, that this research is built on. Also, as I have a strong interest in nature conservation and sustainability and as I grew up in the city, my interpretations of human-nature relationships are influenced by this. E.g. my idea of wilderness might be different from someone who grew up surrounded by nature. This could lead to a certain bias in the policy analysis, where strategy is differentiated in human-nature relationships through my own interpretation.

4. Results

This section will discuss the findings from the policy analysis and interviews. First, the values of residents and policy are weighted up against each other. Then, these value differences and alignment are linked to acceptance of policy measures. Subsequently, it shows the limitedness of value alignment in creating legitimacy, and consequently zooms out on legitimacy, and exposes its links with governance.

4.1 Economic values

4.1.1 Economic benefits and development

In policy documents, it is agreed upon that the Wadden islands are dependent on tourism. TS2005 quotes that *“tourism is the cork on which Terschelling floats.”* And VL2024 states that *“tourism is of large value at Vlieland.”* One of the objectives of ST2014 states to *“meet economic benefits for current and future generations”*. Local documents emphasize that *“The municipality wants to optimally profit from the benefits of the visitors at the island”*. TS2005 speaks of enhancing growth of the tourism sector, in terms of widening the season and attracting new tourists. This highlights the valuation of the economic profit. Accordingly, policy prioritizes the quality of life for residents, which is inseparable from economic development. TSTV states that *“tourism causes an attractive living and residential climate.”* This highlights the importance of liveability, in relation to tourists. The ST2014 also describes how tourism *“can contribute to regional development through all sectors, resulting in better quality of life within local communities.”* This suggests that economic welfare is closely linked to quality of life of residents, and therefore development is valued.

Generally, there was also a wide belief among residents that tourism as well as nature are essential to the islands, apart from the relationship between tourism and nature. The importance of tourism is mostly underbuilt with the dependency of Vlieland and Terschelling on tourism. Po8 describes tourism as *“the cork on which everything floats”*, and also P15 mentions that *“tourism brought a lot to the table in terms of welfare, so there is a relationship of dependence”*. This emphasizes the financial dependence of the whole island.

A number of respondents also emphasized the importance of economic welfare through the interaction with liveability. This was expressed by fear that tourism restrictions would threaten liveability. P19 accordingly argues for flexibility in nature protection: *“If you have a ‘carte blanche’, I would say gives us back the control over a piece of nature to enhance liveability.”* They also emphasize the priority of liveability: *“I think you first have to look at liveability. Without tourism, nothing happens here.”* Po4 notes the financial situation of entrepreneurs that becomes suppressed by tourism restrictions: *“It becomes more and more expensive to own a business. And at some point, that must be able to grow [...]. To make sure that the balance between liveability and tourism in the future of Vlieland is maintained, men should be willing to compromise.”* These responses reflect a shared value of economic benefit, but not in terms of economic growth.

In relation to economic dependence, a number of respondents mentioned the importance of a keeping development limited. Po4 said that *“Not everything always needs to be dragged out. You just have to keep the economy running and stable.”* This aligns to the example given by P20, about an entrepreneur on Terschelling that *“takes no more than what they need. You don't have to grow, and you don't have to expand. That's the way—it fits with ecotourism.”* This shows the

desire to restricted tourism. However, this is in contrast with a current situation that is often associated with a focus on growth. P16: *“I think that it is constantly and very much. It seems like there is no limit to growth”*. Also P01 mentions that *“here, from my perspective, it’s all about bigger and more, bigger and more”*. So, the valuation of economic welfare is only to a certain degree, and often goes together with an aversion to growth.

4.2 Cultural and social values

4.2.1 Authenticity and identity preservation

Besides from the need to develop, policy was also unanimous on the importance of identity preservation.. ST2014 addressed the importance of authenticity in tourism: *“Authentic nature experience offers, an integral part of a sustainable ‘Wadden Sea World Heritage Destination’*. Local policy documents also acknowledge the importance of culture, especially in relation to tourism. *“The building blocks show that the island itself (interplay of nature, landscape, (islander) character, cultural history and varied accommodation) is a strong tourist product.”* (TS2007). TS2007 also writes that *“the small scale and diversity are the basic elements for the island identity.”* and aim to *“keep this and strengthen this.”* So, the underlying belief was the additional value of the island identity for the tourism product, which could also be linked to the economic values above.

For residents, the fear of growth and development falls together with a desire for small- scaled tourism and avoidance of mass tourism, so that the cultural identity of the island stays intact. A number of respondents referred to the authenticity aspect of tourism. Terschelling was often associated with its past in agrotourism. P18 associates agrotourism aspects with a good tourism experience, by mentioning the farmers that used to host tourists that *“they also took them out onto the land, catching fish, helping the cows, bringing them in and milking them. As far as they wanted, people could then help out. You really got acquainted with life on Terschelling. And that was part of that tourism experience. That’s traditionally how it was. Gone after World War II, I think. The companies that still try to take that a little bit into their way of working, understand that basic principle.”* In line with this, P04 referred to the loss of local shops: *“And that is a shame, because that is one of the core values of tourism, to keep the authenticity.”* P16 acknowledged the authenticity being important: *“What makes it so unique? That is mainly the space and the nature and the quiet. And the fact that it’s actually still a bit simple here. That is attractive. And if you start organizing a lot of things, events and things, and you make sure that it gets so busy and full, that it’s not so quiet and authentic and clumsy at all anymore.”* These responses refer to values in identity, being minimalistic and authentic.

4.2.2 Respect for local life style

VL2024 states that *“After all, hospitality takes place not only at the accommodation where one stays, but also in contact with residents, on the street, in stores or elsewhere on the island. Therefore, liveability and hospitality go hand in hand. By increasing the liveability and hospitality on Vlieland, we keep Vlieland a pleasant home for residents and an attractive, hospitable and accessible destination for guests.”* Respecting the local lifestyle is closely linked to the importance of liveability for many residents. While economic welfare was previously highlighted as essential for liveability in section 4.1, the value of peace was also related with liveability. Policy acknowledges the importance of liveability. However this is not specified:

“Therefore, a good balance between the arrival of many tourists and the liveability for residents is of great importance”.

In relation to the type of tourism, many respondents expressed their preference for a certain type of tourist. P05 stated that they prefer a certain type of tourist: *“They all walk the same way. All together to the beach, all together that marina, and all within a small 500-meter radius, where it's vibrant. That's it. And the nicer people, the more interesting people, they choose to go for a walk. Those choose the to go to the Vliehors. And those people, I appreciate them heavily.”* One respondent emphasized the valuation of diversity in tourist types. P15: *“you just have a lot of older people who come to hike, but you also really have the young people who just want to go out and be in the campground. So it's kind of different trails or something that are there. So I kind of like that, that that's all next to each other.”* These findings show that the high rate of interactions between tourists and respondents (or residents) do create a shared desire for a respectful type of tourist.

4.2.3 The local use of nature

Nature is valued highly by the respondents, and seen as a part of liveability. A shared motivation for this is the importance of nature for personal use. All respondents confirmed the recreational importance of the islands' natural environment in some way. Activities, like walking, sailing, mountain biking, horseback riding, and bird-watching are returning activities, as well as activities concerning extraction of resources, like wood sawing, fishing, cranberry-picking, and mushroom-picking were activities mentioned by multiple respondents. P07 mentioned this connection: *“But ultimately, it's about a good living environment, and nature is very much part of that”.* This connects liveability with the use of nature.

This value was acknowledged by many respondents, and highlighted the role of tourism in this. P01 highlights the crowdedness: *“I notice it in the quality of life too. In the summer it's really not funny here [...]. But then I really think, it's just too busy, too crowded. Try to run some errands.”* P17 also emphasized the importance of the island not being too crowded: *“Well, I think it shouldn't be overcrowded, because then it's no fun for anyone. Not for the people who live here, but also not for the tourists.”* P2&P3 note that *“people come here for nature and peace”.* This highlights the importance of identity preservation of the island, being a quiet place.

4.3 Environmental values

4.3.1. Nature experience/education/awareness

As described in previous section, nature use is considered very important by policy documents. Consequently, nature conservation is valued by policymakers: *“Nature conservation and sustainable tourism development go hand in hand across the Wadden Sea World Heritage Destination. This relationship is characterised by appreciation, understanding, experience and active participation of all committed partners.”* (ST2014), referring to both tourists and residents. According to TS2014, *“Nature conservation and recreation coexist well in the Wadden Sea”* . Therefore, *“It is not about causing conflicts between tourism and nature conservation.”* (TS2014). This refers to the valuation of nature experience, as well as nature protection. In policy, these go hand in hand, where nature protection is important for nature experience, and nature experience causes stewardship over nature.

Multiple respondents reflected well on the role of tourism to make people aware of their environment. Po6 noted the importance of being in contact with nature: *“If people cannot interact with something, they won’t take care of it”*. P19 acknowledges this and sees tourism at the islands as a way to access nature: *“In Germany, they are very conservative. They simply put a fence around nature, and you are not allowed in. What you don't see and don't know, you have no connection with. So, by allowing people to experience nature in the right way and making them aware of it—like, “Wow, this is it”—especially by letting them experience it themselves, they come to understand that it is something very important to take care of.”* One respondent (P20) noted the conflict between tourism and nature but at the same time highlighted the educative role of tourism: *I note that no tourism is the most sustainable. But I don't think we should strive for that. Because I think tourism is also definitely in nature. It is also making people familiar with the unknown. It is also just letting people enjoy nature, take them into nature, impart knowledge and awareness.”* These responses show the importance of awareness creation in the eyes of the respondents. This is closely connected to nature protection, as they see this as a tool to protect nature, which closely related with the view of policy.

4.3.2. Wildlife protection

One respondent (P16) however, placed nature protection above creating awareness: *“And I don't know, they sometimes say like, when people are in nature, they become aware, and then it would still be good or so. Well, I don't believe all that much. I just believe it's just getting more and more.”* This reflects the paradox that was brought up by more respondents. Nature protection is a value brought forward by both policy documents and respondents. However, the policy documents very much focus on the ecosystem services to humans. The economic valuation of nature is highlighted, linked to the concept of sustainability: *“meets the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”*. Also, nature protection is very much related to the brand, being the Wadden Sea World Heritage property *“contribute to the protection, conservation and presentation of the Wadden Sea World Heritage property.”* However, among respondents wildlife protection is often rooted in the intrinsic value of nature.

This view was adopted by more residents. A number of respondents believed that there is no way to host tourism and at the same time conserve nature, by reasoning that the presence of people is in principle disturbing: E.g. P20 said: *“If you really want to have sustainable tourism, you should all stay home”*, and supported this by noting that *“In the context of sustainability, you can organize many sustainable electric Landrover tours in the forest. You could say it’s a sustainable activity. Compared to a real Land Rover, it is a sustainable activity, but compared to doing nothing, it’s not really that sustainable at all.”* This view was reflected by P16, who said *“But I sometimes say to them, if you really love nature, then stay away from it. And I say that during a nature excursion. If you really do, just go sit in a café and drink beer. Then you're actually doing something good for nature.”* These respondents suggest that in use of nature, disturbance cannot be prevented. Many interviewees said that tourist-nature relationship also causes risk for affecting nature. Po9 argues that an activity like *“driving on the beach with a truck is not sustainable. And watching seals with a motorboat is also not sustainable. It is an experience, but not sustainable”*. P16 states that *“the presence of people in nature is always disturbing”*. These responses highly value undisturbed wildlife, and connects to the intrinsic value of nature.

4.4 Spatial and temporal zoning

WSP states that “*disturbance and damage caused by recreation and tourism will be further reduced through information systems, and/or temporal and spatial zoning, e.g. network of trails and routes.*” The importance of nature conservation and wildlife protection lead to measures, like zoning. Trail networks as well as closing off areas (temporarily) are there to release pressure off nature. However, accessibility for nature experiences is also valued, and therefore natural areas are opened as much as possible. WSP states that “*kitesurfing can distort nature values, in particular roosting sites for birds. The aim is a harmonised approach to kitesurfing, consisting of zoning where the activity is allowed under conditions.*” This allows recreational activities in case that the environmental impact is low, implying the importance of accessibility of nature.

4.4.1 Access to nature

In general, people agreed with spatial zoning on the islands. Multiple respondents, like P19, highlighted the role of zoning to release pressure off nature: “*The zoning measures are very important. Also on the beach, with the beach hatches, that you deal with that. And that it is necessary to declare a piece inaccessible, I think that is no more than normal.*” Po8 acknowledged this and provided an example of the Vliehors being closed off for public during the week for military purposes: “*I think that [the Vliehors being open during the week] would be much worse for nature. [...] So at first I thought, it's bad that the defense is there. Now I think, I hope they don't get sent away soon. Because then you get the entrepreneurs who all see a lot of money, because it's a beautiful plain. Who then think, we can organize something nice there. And then you get one barbecue after another. That's really terrible.*” P19 acknowledged the need to prevent production, but saw zoning as a functional way to also still provide the recreational activities: “*I say listen, I don't know what's more disruptive. A really big boat or a small boat that goes there. It's very easy to say, a RIB boat is not allowed. No, it's more about how fast are you going with that RIB and where are you going with that RIB. That is, I think, if you stick to the rules, there's nothing wrong with it.*” These responses show an alignment in values of nature protection but at the same time allowing nature experience.

4.4.2 Perception of nature experience

P15 however, addresses the nature experience that is restricted by recreational activities, referring to visual pollution: “*Then I thought, yeah, nice on the beach, I'm just sitting here watching forty kites on the sea, everything has been taken away from what makes it nice to be at the sea. And so if you want to swim or go surfing or something, it's quite difficult if there are kites going through it all the time. So to say, do that in certain places or not, that seems like a very good idea to me.*” The respondent still states to be satisfied with zoning, explaining that activity restrictions enhance rather than interfere with the nature experience. Nature accessibility was still valued, but more in terms of peace and quietness that it brings.

Path and road networks is another approach adopted by policymakers to enforce nature accessibility but at the same time preventing nature disturbance. Multiple respondents, like P20, expressed path infrastructure as a good way to release pressure of nature: “*So the forest area around the villages, that is actually dense of path structure, of trash cans, things like that, are highest there. And that is how it has been looked at since the 70s and that has always been used, up until now. So in itself that is a good thing.*” Most respondents agreed with the canalizing method, as a way to keep people from nature, like P8: “*I really believe in canalizing. Look, you*

can go in the 'Kroonspolders' [...]. There, you can leave people unattended, or you can make a bird watching point, like SBB did. And then you lead people exactly to that point, which disturbs nature way less." P12 also noted to be satisfied with the way tourism is kept from wild areas: "Here and there are some benches added and some viewpoints created, so that you guide the tourism a bit. They don't have to find a place themselves to climb on top of the dune. No, they have a nice spot with shells, and a bench." P20 highlighted the car road mapping on Terschelling as a way of canalizing: "I think the disturbing effect of cars is not that big here, because on Terschelling we have ribbon villages behind each other with one main road and a few bath ways." These responses suggest that the valuation of nature protection aligns well with efforts to keep people on paths.

4.4.3 Overplanning

Still, overplanning of these landscapes were criticized by a number of respondents. The natural areas are provisioned of signs, trash cans, and posts. This can be connected to the valuation of creating awareness for tourists on how to behave in nature. However, P05 said: "Sometimes, all the hiking paths and routes and posts drive me crazy. That has nothing to do with nature. That is what I call a park." According other respondents, among whom P15, this affects the aesthetics of nature: "And another sign in nature, and this, and that. Something that is already beautiful, should not be made more beautiful." P12 also highlighted the information systems as "being horizon pollution": "There are so many signs everywhere. I would like a little less signs [...]. If you walk into the woods, there is a sign with 'Welcome to Staatsbosbeheer. Walking, cycling on paths and roads where indicated. Running a dog off the leash is not permitted.' Make sure that is on the screen or on the boat." These responses showed the valuation of peace and quietness that nature offers, which in this case clash with the aim of Staatsbosbeheer to achieve undisturbed nature.

Apart from the educative value, a common critique on this approach was the effectiveness. P12 brings this up through an example on hatching areas "You are seeing a row of posts and signs. Let's have a look, what would there be? If you put nothing there, nobody will notice that there is a beach hatcher. And now, where is it? They will go there to watch." P08 shared this opinion and expresses satisfaction on the choices made on attributes: "Look, here for example there are no trash cans at all by the benches on the island. And everyone says well, you have to put trash cans. But you don't find any trash at all. That's the same in Tokyo. There are no trash cans on the street there, because people will take everything home with them. They don't throw cigarette butts on the ground." These responses articulate overregulation causing the dissatisfaction on this policy approach, apart from the shared goal of keeping nature clean. As described in section 4.3.1, this is valued as it is believed that this can create awareness, and therefore greater care and respect of nature.

However, some respondents believed that this could create the opposite. This view connects with the caution that nature is treated with, according to people. One respondent implied that the resilience of nature is sometimes underestimated in event policy. P05 stated: "The festival board then wants to use a piece of land for performance, for the stage. For gigs, you name it. And then 'Staatsbosbeheer' looks at it. Is that possible? Is that all suitable? And so on. And then a meeting is held about it and a decision is made. Then it's looked at. Then people go there. Then there will be this. Then there becomes that. And then how it plays out: the festival is allowed to go on, but then a very large section is cordoned off with ribbon, with fences. Around a certain little tree, around a certain salamander, or around a certain butterfly. That makes me a little bit tired

sometimes". The belief in resilience of nature led with this respondent to a preference in a less careful nature conservation approach.

4.4.4 Approach to conservation

This desire for a more flexible approach adapts well to some people's view on Natura 2000 legislation. The European Natura 2000 legislation was established with the one and only value to protect natural areas. The Natura 2000 protected areas cover the largest part of the Wadden Islands, and are therefore the strongest policy tool of the tourism policy. They do allow access to the areas, but no alterations to the landscape.

As said, some respondents disapproved on the lack of flexibility in Natura 2000 legislation. P18 addressed the conflict between nature conservation and sustainability: *"It's two sided: I think it's very good, but at the same time there could be certain sustainable initiatives, which could fit the landscape very well, but are not feasible because it's Natura 2000 area."* P19 provides an example where tourism and Natura 2000 would clash *"imagine, I want to make treehouse-like constructions, which are totally climate neutral. Then I would say, why is that non allowed?"* P05 emphasizes the lack of holism: *"Those Natura 2000 rules, I think they are really too conservative. They are too simplistic. Nature cannot be drawn in a line. Nature is not a circle and that's all you get. Nature is much better than that. So you always have to see the bigger picture, quite simply."* These responses suggest that while the value of nature protection is not doubted, some believe the policies are too rigid and plea for a more flexible approach to conservation.

Still, many respondents referred back to Natura 2000 legislation when discussing nature protection on the islands. Most respondents were positive about the protective approach of Natura 2000 legislation, referring to protection of natural landscapes. P2&P3 noted that *"nature is protected well because of Natura 2000"*. Also P12 expressed feelings of satisfaction towards Natura2000: *"Not so much for my own view, but so that they cannot stack the whole landscape full, and that they do their best, to keep nature"*. This showed a shared value of nature protection in policy and residents.

4.5 Accommodation planning

Accommodation planning goes hand in hand with Natura 2000 legislation on the islands. Terschelling has a maximum in amount of beds; stabilisation policy. Vlieland does not speak of an amount of beds, however, Natura 2000 legislation does not allow extra building of accommodation on Vlieland. VL07 also highlights that it *"does not strive for growth in capacity"*. Besides that this secures protection of natural areas, the peace and quietness is guaranteed by maximizing the amount of tourists. This way, high quality of tourism can be secured, which is one of the main objectives of TS2014.

4.5.1 Importance of liveability

A few noted the positive influence of accommodation management on the quality of tourism. P13 accentuated the tourism-nature interaction: *"But with that you also show that nature and vacation do go together, for example, because you have a house in the middle of the dunes. So you see a pheasant walking on your sidewalk. And that kind of thing. I think if you put more concrete blocks underneath, that will go away."* P05 emphasized the positive influence on the diversity of tourism on the island: *"I completely agree with that policy. Otherwise, you get a proliferation of hotels, apartments, interests. The parties that are already doing well, they will grow even more."*

The monopolists. They will expand even more. And the one-sidedness will become even greater as a result.” These responses align with the valuation of tourism quality, that also UNESCO and local policy highlight.

Besides tourism quality, restrictions in recreative housing also created positive impact on liveability on the island according to a number of respondents. P09 noted the resident/tourist balance on the island: *“If more were built for tourists, then you would get more use of the island and you would have less space for people who live there, who actually have to facilitate tourism. And then you end up with a structure where only tourists live. And that the workforce has to come back and forth from there every day by boat.”* P19 highlighted the resident housing as priority: *“Well, you want to prevent the island from being built up. And then there is the fact that the need for social housing is many times higher than the need for holiday space. And you have to prevent it from becoming a holiday park where nobody lives anymore.”* According to these responses, a sense of ownership appeared to play a large role in this, and led to satisfaction.

4.6 Season extension

Unlike the amount of accommodations, capacity growth is also addressed in policy measures concerning season extension, which is one of the main aims of both Vlieland and Terschelling. This policy point aims to stimulate year-long visits. The main reason for this is logistics, so that personnel can be held all year long. According to VL2024, this would have *“positive effects on the quality of personnel”*. Also, this would help *“keep the facilities for residents and visitors, which can keep the island liveable and attractive for all residents.”* (VL2024) From this can be deduced that quality of tourism and quality of life are the main values that underlie the decisions made in season extension.

4.6.1 Perception of disturbance

A number of respondents recognized the importance of good liveability, however, again point out that more people are more disturbing, referring to year-long presence. P12: *“Tourism is now almost all year long. In the past, this was very season-bounded. [...] I think it’s not so good. Because what you get is nonstop crowdedness. Non-stop presence of people.”* P16 acknowledged this year-long impact on nature: *“I get the idea that from the spring break, it peaks. It peaks further, and further, and then it peaks into autumn. And then it peaks around Christmas. And then, there is a small low, and then it’s starts peaking quickly in the direction of May.”* This counters the argument of flattening peaks with the use of the strategy. Some respondents thought that liveability is affected by widening the season. P12 highlighted the continuous crowds on the islands: *“Then I run into 30,40 people on the ‘Postweg’. That makes me think, what are you doing here already? A period of rest would also be nice in January, February. No people.”* Season extension was also related to nature impact by a number of respondents. P15 highlighted temporal spreading as an alternative for spatial planning: *“I think that spreading is very important. If we’re talking about...Should more houses be built on other locations? If you say, no, we need more tourism; don’t we have to spread it a bit more?”* This relates to the economic welfare, and a balanced development that is valued.

Season extension was also associated with nature conservation by many respondents. Some respondents feared disturbance of wildlife. P07 pointed out that *“On the east side, there are staying a lot of seals right now. In the past, once in a while someone would walk by. Now it is simply crowded”*. Other respondents, however, associated widening the season especially with

releasing pressure from nature. P09 shared this thought in organising events outside the high season: *“It obviously attracts a lot of tourists, but it is very low in impact, because it is organised at the end of august. And then the nature is already resting, which leads to not so much disturbance”*. P08 also highlights the importance of releasing pressure from nature, and at the same time maintaining liveability: *“We have always promoted the off-season and silent periods. So less weekends, but more midweeks. To indeed make sure the island does not become like Venice. And therefore also to sustain nature”*. So, the valuation of wildlife protection led to different opinions on policy. Also, the nature aspect was not the main consideration of policymakers in the first place, but did move many respondents to a certain attitude towards season extension.

4.7 Car policy

To Vlieland, being car-free is really important not only for logistics, but primarily for its identity. VL2024 states: *“The island is characterised by its vast nature, local character with local connections, a committed and hospitable community, being car-free and peace and space.”* Terschelling does host cars, but tries to limit it, which *“fits in perfectly with the general policy principle and the image/character that we want to radiate in our promotion.”* (TS2007) The tourism product is seen as important in this. This is also the reason why they emphasize that they *“realize that today's guest is becoming more demanding and expects a lot of quality. It is therefore important to offer good alternatives to the car.”* (TS2007). This refers to the importance of quality of tourism.

4.7.1 Ramifications

The car discouraging policy of Terschelling was seen as something positive by a number of respondents. Multiple respondents addressed the discouraging policy of Rederij Doeksen to take your car.. P15 speaks about the maximum capacity of the ferries: P14: *“It's protected already. Doeksen cannot take more cars than at this moment. So it will never become too much.”* Multiple respondents addressed the alignment of ferry policy and parking policy. P13 stated: *“And that's also the thing with Doeksen. You do try to discourage it, so throwing up the price of cars. But the parking policy is in Harlingen. I think if you go here for a week and a half or so, it's already cheaper to bring your car than to leave it there. Then I can understand that you take your car with you.”* P19 acknowledged this, by noting: *“But then you have to look at the overall picture if someone parks their car here in Harlingen for two weeks, Then it gets expensive too.”* One respondent, P15, addressed the discouragement of camping in current policy: *“to transfer your caravan is also quite expensive, because you pay for the meters. So aren't people then more likely to say, I want a cottage? You then create more need for cottages.”* These responses address the existence of ramifications in discouraging policy.

Building upon the lack of alternatives, ramifications were brought up considering the accessibility of Terschelling. P16 addressed the discouraging policy of Rederij Doeksen: *“You can't say, transfer a car to the island will cost you 1500 euros, because then you'll only get back among those people from 'het Gooi' who do that. And the very conscious people, they will come by bike anyway.”* P15 stated that this is already the case with the current policy: *“How it works is, because it's quite expensive to transfer your car [...] And you can ask yourself; doesn't it just provide an opportunity for rich people to transfer their car?”*. P20 also highlighted the fear for inaccessibility of Terschelling, for older people: *“I just drove 11, 12 kilometres from my house to*

here. *That's pretty far. You have some older people who can't do everything by bike anymore.*" The discouraging policy brings some ramifications, that impact how people looked at this.

4.8 Renovation of accommodative houses

The fear of exclusion of tourists aligned well with a number of responses about luxury houses and hotels that attract an unwanted type of tourist. Many respondents noted the transformation to luxury accommodations on the island. Apart from the restrictions in building extra accommodations, development plans allow areas that are subjected to accommodative housing to rebuild and renovate. Apart from height restrictions, there are no legal restrictions in building style. This relates to the value of development and quality of tourism, that policy strives to.

4.8.1 Authenticity versus development

Multiple residents expressed the fear for an image change, attracting a different kind of tourist. P20 also associated luxury houses with *"people with a heavy wallet"* and even though P20 supports *"not only biodiversity, but also human diversity"*, they expressed its fear for *"if at some point it takes the overhand, that only people with a lot of money stay here. You might have heard at Vlieland the term 'Vliebiza'."* Not only that fear was expressed by people on Terschelling, the reference 'Vliebiza' was often made by Vlielanders. *"And we see that house prices and recreational homes are very expensive. And that means that we are gradually seeing more and more of a very affluent tourist here. And that's not a bad thing. But that shouldn't be too much either. Because then it becomes a kind of 'Vliebiza', we already have that name, and those recreate very differently."* These responses imply that the type of tourist attracted does not fit the authenticity nature of the islands, and that economic objectives clash with authenticity.

Many respondents saw the ability to rebuild houses and hotels as a threat for the identity of the island. The responses expressed dissatisfaction about structural vacancy of private-owned accommodation. P10&P11: *"The effect of vacation homes being converted into luxury vacation homes, which are then not rented out. That does have an effect, also on the island. Because it also means that those kinds of houses are empty. Or not being lived in. And that also gives a strange impression on an island, a bit spooky."* P13 saw this as a reason to legitimize the rule of not building extra accommodation: *"Midsland aan zee and Westland aan zee, they are ghost villages now in the evening. There are maybe one or two lights on, and that's it. If you are going to place more houses there, where will it stop?"* Some respondents, like P18, highlighted the economic consequence of *"less residence, less movements on the island."* And labelled this as *"not very good for the liveability on the island"*. Economic welfare, as well as liveliness on the island appeared to play a large role in these opinions. The responses imply a lack of consideration of these values in this policy output.

4.9 Reflections on output legitimacy

Finally, the interviewees were asked to reflect on alignment of policy and their needs. This chapter will review this.

4.9.1 General alignment

Many respondents tourism reflected on policy as being aligned with their needs. P15 supported tourism policy: *"I don't see any activities which make me think, like why do they allow this? It is harmful..."* P18 also said this: *"I think we are doing alright. Well, maybe we're doing quite well"*

actually. Because we don't have e.g. high rise buildings." These respondents based their opinions on observations of landscape or activities.

Some respondents however, did not experience value alignment with policy. P01 stated that "I would prefer to have different tourism policy, less tourists." P16 supported their dissatisfaction with tourism policy with the degree of wellbeing of wildlife: "No, I'm not happy. Things are just not going so well. The Wadden Sea is also not doing well. They're also finding more plastic in the Wadden Sea again, and that's just because there are more tourists [...]. It's visible with some birds, like the avocet and those sandpipers, those pallid plovers.... We're talking about a decrease of dozens of breeding pairs a year." The state of the tourism situation on the islands was decisive for the degree of satisfaction. P06 also made this disclaimer: "I haven't really looked at the rules. I think I have. I haven't gotten much into the rules yet, but I can see the impact of the rules even if I don't know the rules. So I would say it is effective."

4.9.2 Value alignment and acceptance

The concept of acceptance played a large role in general. Eventhough people did not get a sense of alignment, some respondents still did not conflict with policy. P07 stated, with referred back to their earlier expressed feelings of dissatisfaction : "Very contradictory of me now [...]. We are part of nature, as humans. And we also just have needs. And it's good, especially if you live in the city, and certainly in the Randstad, to be able to experience this too. To be able to be free for a while. That's very good." Also, P17 expressed feelings of acceptance by stating: "We have to just take it as it is.". P19 acknowledged this by saying: "you know, we're dealing with the same regulations as the rest of the world. And that's what it is." This implies that the content of policy was not always the main factor in relating to policy. Also, understanding played a role in responses considering policy. P12 emphasized the complexity of policymaking. "You cannot do it right because everyone wants other things." P09 reasoned their satisfaction towards policy with: "It's a very difficult dilemma where the regulations or the legislation has to deal with, the municipality in this case. Because you can't allow nothing. And you can't allow everything either." These findings show the understanding of the complexity of policymaking.

4.9.4 Effectiveness

Besides the question what policy can achieve, a number of respondents also brought up the effect of policy, referring to effectiveness. P09 addressed the feasibility of rules: "If you define the rules, then you have to enforce. So you have to define them so that that enforcement is enforceable actually, or realistically enforceable." One respondent, P20, addresses the definition of rules that can lead to non-compliance: "If you are only a little bit creative, you can find a loophole what makes it possible to do things anyway." According to these respondents, rules have to be defined in a certain way so that they are effective.

Many respondents particularly articulated the role of enforcement. P14 highlighted the importance of enforcement: "People do need to be kept in line with signs and rules and boas." And when asked if that is the case at the moment, P09 replies that "That's a problem. Because you have a limited number of people here, and to enforce properly you need capacity. And that's difficult." This was considered apart from "the approach of the policy, which is good." P04 also emphasized the dependence on enforcement: "Of course, it all falls together with evaluation and enforcement. We used to have a lady sitting here, Bianca Verheij. She passed away, unfortunately. She was an Olympic champion at that. [...] You have to be able to keep checking it. And that's what

it's missing now. And that is visible." These findings suggest the relevance of the tools and capacity to enforce.

4.10 The role of governance principles in output legitimacy

Besides value alignment, a number of respondents brought up characteristics of policymakers, that were intertwined with the perception of output legitimacy.

4.10.1 Capability

Capability of policymakers was addressed often by residents. P10&P11 referred to the amount of expertise: *"You know, it is a super small municipality. And there is not a lot of money, which means that the amount of expertise is small."* and consequently mentioned that *"now, it simply does not work, and you cannot expect that from the current civil servants here."* P16 acknowledged the role of local policymakers: *"It is insane, though. They are all incompetent idiots. If you look at those pictures; it looks like everyone has Down syndrome. It's not normal."* P04 addressed the importance of the place of residence for policymakers: *"Maybe the focus is also on maybe the wrong things at times [...]. We have a lot of civil servants, twenty or so. A lot of them come and spend one or two nights on Vlieland [...]. But they do think from the perspective, where they come from. And not always in the efficiency of the island."*

Aside from the capabilities of policymakers, capability of policy was also expressed in the question how large of a role policy can play in such system. P20 highlighted the power of business owners: *"it is not because of the rules. I think it is because of the economy and people offering more and more. And in the end, there is only a small group that can pay."* P06 claimed that responsibility of people is important, apart from policy: *"But I think islanders need to show an example, people are like cows, they follow the leaders or the biggest group. So I think when tourists come in and they see people behaving a certain way, they will naturally behave according to those rules. So I definitely think it's a balance between people living here and people making rules."* P20 explicitly mentioned the limitedness of policy: *"The policy I am satisfied with. That it sometimes turns out a little differently, that's true. You can't catch everything with policy. If you want to fix everything with policy, then it does get very regulated."* These responses show the view that policy can only reach so far.

4.10.2 Transparency

Transparency was also addressed often in the interviews. P1 accentuated the power of business owners: *"The policymakers here, a large number of them have a company. There you go."* P10&P11 relate the financial interests of policymakers to the lack of transparency: *Only politically it is not always pure and transparent. Surely the interests of the entrepreneurs are always the most important. And the aldermen also have a hand of it. And also the ex-mayors."* According to them, the lack of transparency allows policymakers to think in their own interests: *"They get a free ticket and then it goes into closed council meetings, where not a word comes out. And that's how you deal with."* This refers to the insight in decision-making processes.

Besides the lack of insight in process, which created dissatisfaction, lack of transparency also caused the inability to judge value alignment. P08, for example, noted about the amount of tourists that *"Everyone is talking about it, it increases, it increases, it increases. But currently, the*

amount of visitors is actually decreasing.” Same goes for the type of tourist that is attracted to the island, according to P08: *“People say, it is becoming a ‘Yup’ island, but that is actually a very small group of people.”* There was not only unawareness of the situation but also unawareness of policy, which made it hard to judge value alignment. P15: *“No, I wouldn't want to comment on that because I don't have enough insight into the whole process there.”* P18 replied on a question about the role of nature conservation in tourism with: *“Oh, I find that difficult. I don't really know the policy well enough for that.”* P13 explicitly stated the lack of visibility of Unesco: *“Well, the only thing I actually see from UNESCO is a sign in Harlingen.”*

4.10.3 Integration

Not only the importance of visibility, was emphasized, but also the local nature of governance. P13 also emphasized the important of local governance, referring to the role of Staatsbosbeheer: *“Such a local approach is also much more important, because you can't think of everything from The Hague. I mean I wouldn't know how nature works in Limburg”.* P05 acknowledged the value of local governance: *“I have a little trouble that everything has to be regulated from Europe. We have the municipality and there are some pretty bright minds in there. We have a city council that has common sense. They know what they are doing”.* P04 emphasized the lack of tuning between different levels and legislative instruments: *“Because you have UNESCO, you have natura 2000, you have so many agencies. And some of it is outsourced through Leeuwarden. But it's virtually unmanageable, and if you really want to make a hard hand in policy, you will have to start working together”.* These responses highlight the importance of integrating as much in local governance as possible, as well as enhancing collaboration between different levels of governance.

5. Discussion and implications

This section provides interpretations and implications of the findings, structured according to the most important theories addressed in the theoretical framework, being the HNR framework, Lockwood's principles for good governance, and Kooiman's orders of governance. After that, the thesis is critically evaluated on its method and scope, addressing potential limitations. Lastly, recommendations for future research are drawn based on the interpretations and implications of the findings.

5.1 Human nature relationships

The introduction introduced Ostroms' idea of social-ecological systems, addressed in the introduction of this thesis. 'Importance of resource to users' is one of her mandates. This forms in this thesis the basis of the values of policy and residents. The HNR alignments were all based on the assumption that all stakeholders cared about their environment. This immediately eliminates apathy, as this would suggest lack of care. This immediately acknowledges the introduced definition of legitimacy by Scharpf (1997) in the theoretical framework, where it is about "achieving goals that citizens collectively care about".

5.1.1. Stewardship

So, there was an overarching belief that natural areas should be taken care of. Section 4.3.1 introduces the mutual feelings of conservation of nature in both policy and residents. This was also expressed in policy, where Natura 2000 was valued for its protective purpose (section 4.4.4). Also, efforts for releasing pressure off nature, like canalizing, were appreciated for its purpose. Zoning therefore appeared to be very determining in policy for nature conservation, and stewardship formed the basic value underlying this. This suggests that zoning might be used to support the underlying aim of this thesis to consider policy-steered ways to care for natural resources on the islands.

5.1.2. Participant

Still, stewardship only partly defined the preference in approach. Beliefs in how nature conservation in tourism policy should be tackled differed, even though there was a communal feeling of stewardship. One value orientation related to the belief that humans should not intervene with nature. It was believed that holding back interventions in nature would contribute to preservation of the residents' environment. This relates to the participant relationship with nature, which refers to making no alterations in nature and being guest in nature. The paradox of wilderness and responsible access was also addressed by Krieger et al. (2017). On the one hand, people want to experience 'the wild' but simultaneously desire 'managed' nature. Sumares & Fidélis (2011) provides the well-found example on the conflicting narratives in windfarms, referring to naturally preserving the environment, and artificially. The lack of room for sustainable initiatives in Natura 2000 areas draws on this conflict in narratives. For planning, this creates a new question on to what extent natural areas should be segregated or integrated with human initiatives and activities. Taking this into decision-making could therefore enhance acceptance of policy.

5.1.3. Partnership

This natural-artificial paradox nicely portrays the relationship between participant and partnership on the islands, where partnership represented the ability to combine tourism and nature conservation. Partnership was a pivotal value orientation in policy, looking at practical management measures in transport, and infrastructure. This focused on conserving nature conservation while still allowing the enjoyment of nature through interactions. These management measures connect to the allowance of alterations in natural areas if it benefits both people and nature. This approach in policy was often criticized by residents. Especially effectiveness often stood in the way of acceptance. Signposting was criticized for its lack of effectivity in its nature conservation capacity, and also tourist activities lacked the capacity to sustain nature. Building on this, policy output could be changed in order to increase effectiveness, and therefore output legitimacy for residents.

5.1.4. User and mastery

Still, in some measures, policy also maintained a user relationship with nature. Economic profit and development were prioritized in tourism. Tourism policy was perceived by many residents as growth-focused, in terms of the influx of tourists. Residents especially expressed feared for becoming too focused on using the environment in tourism policy, and thereby forgetting its local population. This relates very much to the role of ecosystem services that natural areas provide in landscape management. This is a common method to make and implement ecosystem plans. According to Hein et al. (2006), this can be of use to define what a landscape in planning should provide, especially in the context of different interests in areas. Ironically, the findings demonstrated that different valuations are not all related to ecosystem services in the eyes of residents. In fact, this ecosystem service focus in policy could be the explanation for the discrepancy between policy and resident values. This aligns well with a common issue in tourism policy, where management is primarily focused on economic interests, but requires a paradigm shift towards taking into account non-economic values (Chakraborty et al., 2020).

5.1.5 Intrinsic value

The participant versus partnership clash, that was seen more often in the findings, essentially came from the intrinsic value that residents held with nature, and was not reciprocated with policy. The participant relationship related to the intrinsic value, already a term used in the HNR framework (table 1). Intrinsic value refers to the valuation wellbeing of nature is not connected to any ecosystem service. In other words, care for nature without getting any benefits from it, without adopting egoism (Arias-Arévalo et al., 2017). This was found in the pattern of people caring for wellbeing of wildlife, and the will to leave nature to rest. This role of intrinsic value also shows the importance of beliefs. The definition of output legitimacy introduced in the theoretical framework: “the capability of achieving the goals that citizens collectively care about” limits output legitimacy to the result, where there can be different approaches to reach the same goal, in this case on nature conservation. In other words, the way that goals are reached is also determining for output legitimacy.

5.1.6 Liveability

Although intrinsic value was a large theme in value alignments, this altruistic attitude was countered by liveability, playing a large role for residents in their opinions. The overarching

theme appeared to be 'liveability', referring to the quality of life of residents. Nature is a big part of this, looking at e.g. the appreciation of peace and quietness that nature brings (section 4.4.2). Chapter 3 shows the importance of 'respect for local lifestyle' and 'identity preservation', which plays a large role in nature in behaviour. Authenticity rolled out as important for residents, and conflicted with the focus of policy on development of the area (section 4.8.1). This desire for authenticity came from attraction of a nice and diverse public, resulting in a good appearance and atmosphere of the island (Section 4.5.1).

Remarkably, the economic driving forces of policy seemed to clash often with liveability. Interestingly, economic benefits were often framed as enhancing liveability by policy documents, in terms of regional development (section 4.1.1.), while this did not align with the definition of many residents of liveability. Looking at the HNR framework, they could both be placed in the user relationship, as they use their environments as instruments for their own wellbeing. Still, these values clashed within this relationship. A suggested reason for this could be that values of residents, like authenticity, were not limited to natural landscapes, but also in urban environments. The values related to measures on accommodation planning went beyond the HNR framework, as it did not only relate to integration of nature and tourism, but was very much related to liveability on the island in general. This implies the applicability of the HNR framework at Vlieland and Terschelling. Section 5.1.9 below will elaborate further on the impact on the utility of the framework.

5.1.7 The importance of planning

The importance of liveability emphasizes the crucial role of policy to divide space. Policy already showed the importance of planning in tourism governance on the islands. Data shows that both residents as well as tourism policymakers strongly rely on the environment, which suggests that essentially, tourism governance revolves around the division of space, and tourism policy should serve as a fair way to divide space on the islands between residents, tourists and wildlife. The human-nature relationships showed the different ways that people can look at planning approaches. The beliefs based on the partnership relationship aimed at more holistic approach, and thereby criticized Natura 2000 for lack of flexibility. One reason for this was the lack of room for sustainable initiatives. This refers to the line that is drawn between living environment and nature, where nature conservation and sustainability come into conflict. This connected to the view that nature cannot be drawn in between lines (section 4.4.4.). This view was also adopted in the excessive testing nature for planning festivals (section 4.4.3.). This suggests the resilience of nature as a driving force to prevent excessive planning. Still, this did not mean complete rejection of the zoning approach, adopted by the Wadden Islands. Natura 2000 was also appreciated by some people, especially because of its lack of flexibility. Namely, there was also a belief of restrictions and rules. Enforcement was found very important (section 4.9.4.) in order to create effectiveness.

This does not only show that different beliefs can emerge from a collective need to protect the environment, but also the diverseness of values. Different people have different values regarding environment. In theoretical terms, this refers to value pluralism. Value pluralism is term used for the philosophy that different people can hold different values. The consequence of this given is the complexity of value alignment. Taking on the relationship between value alignment and

output legitimacy, this implies the importance of capturing diverse values in policy (Zafra-Calvo et al., 2020).

5.1.8 Implications for the HNR framework

The HNR framework, with all its different values, is appropriate for this value pluralism. However, looking at the scope of the HNR, the HNR framework turned out to be limited in terms of liveability, that could not all be captured by human-nature relationships. Moreover, 'nature' is a fluid concept, also in the eyes of residents, e.g. demonstrated in section 4.4.3 where it was argued that a landscape with signs and paths is not nature. In short, value alignment is very much connected to how people use their environments. Therefore, considering the context of the Wadden Islands, I would rename them to human-environment relationships. This is not uncommon in literature. E.g. Gössling (2002) used human-environment relationships to describe local views on tourism development. Besides expanding the scope of this framework, it would on the other hand benefit the framework to reduce to three categories, as partnership, participant, and master/user were enough to define value clashes. Arias-Arévalo et al. (2017) makes, among many other studies on values in social-ecological systems, the distinction between intrinsic, instrumental and relational. In a system, with the knowledge that there is a collective strong relationship with the environment, this framework should be able to grasp all values.

This chapter provided evidence for a pivotal role of values in legitimacy. At the same time, the complexity of value representation, among others caused by value pluralism, this promotes the intention of this thesis to place value alignment in the governance system, and to also lay focus on the design of the governance system and their principles. The next chapter will therefore dig deeper into the role of the governance system in policy legitimacy, in context of Terschelling and Vlieland.

5.2 Lockwood's principles of governance

5.2.1. The role of principles in legitimacy

In the theoretical framework, it was argued that legitimacy could be placed in a context of Lockwood's principles. Section 4.10 demonstrates the role of the Lockwood principles of good governance. Not all principles seemed to be as important. The findings showed transparency, capability and integration as closely interconnected with legitimacy, and consequently appeared to be crucial in creating a legitimate governance system at Vlieland and Terschelling.. This came back in the emphasized relevance of transparency, capability and integration. Transparency referred to the lack of openness by policymakers, as well as the lack of visibility of (multilateral) policy strategies. This principle came back in the principle integration. This emphasized the importance of tuning between multiple governance levels. One comment was also made about the lack of knowledge about local and regional nature. This connects integration with the third important principle, being capability. This focused on the ability of policymakers to make the right decisions. This relationship seems to be complex. On the one hand, it was argued that lack of integration endangers the capability to make the right decisions. On the other hand, direct comments made about capability was about the lack of competence of local governors. This relates to a statement by Lockwood et al. (2010) to govern at the "*least centralized level with the capacity to satisfactorily complete them.*", i.e. the concept of subsidiarity. This implies that there is a balance between local governance and governance of quality. On the islands, the quality of

local governance is largely affected by lack of resources, financial but also human, that affects the policy output. In order to increase legitimacy, it is therefore advised to address these resources, which will be further elaborated on in the recommendation section.

5.2.2. Integration

A remarkably large theme that portrays the relationship between legitimacy and integration is the integration of Natura 2000 areas in local policy. Many residents underlined the tendency of policy to focus on economic growth. However, due to the restrictions through protected areas, efforts to grow are limited to areas outside Natura 2000 zones. This creates a contrast between local policies focused on economic growth and the broader European approach to nature conservation. Beyond differences in values, this lack of integration may contribute to the perception that policy is primarily driven by economic interests. Looking at the application of Lockwood's principles on protected area management, it is stated that legitimacy is dependent on to what degree government's functioning is consistent with the goals related to its protected areas (Lockwood, 2010). According to Lockwood (2010), not achieving this consistency can undermine legitimacy. The findings show that consistency can affect imaging of value alignment, which is crucial for output legitimacy.

5.2.3. Trust

Building forward on the connection of throughput legitimacy to a legitimate governance system, trust seems to be the right term to describe this. Trust in this case does not only grasps a feeling of representation in values, but also requires the ability to see what is going on, coherence across levels, and competence of policymakers. Generally, this all relates to the ability to entrust policymakers to manage the system, and at the same time check whether this is the case. The importance of trust was not taken into the theoretical framework in the first place. However, considering literature it is no surprise that trust interacts with legitimacy. For example, Turner et al., (2016) concludes that trust affects legitimacy in natural resource governance. Engaging with the theory of value pluralism in terms of natural systems, Zafra-Calvo et al. (2020) acknowledges the pivotal role of trust between stakeholders in order to enhance acceptable decision-making. The inseparable link between trust and legitimacy makes it advisable to take this along in evaluating value alignment frameworks in environmental governance.

5.3 Kooiman orders of governance

Trust already shows the dynamics between management and governance processes, which pledges for the mobilisation of the reflections above on management of the islands is through governance. Therefore, I will return to Kooiman's orders of governance in this section.

5.3.1. First-tier governance

This research has focused on first-tier governance, looking at management measures. The results showed that output legitimacy in terms of value alignment especially came from a well-functioning management system. Output legitimacy appeared to be deeply intertwined with observations in day-to-day life (section 4.9.1). Organisations involved in management, like Rederij Doeksen (ferry company) and Staatsbosbeheer were addressed often, showing the importance of close-by day-to-day management. The implication that planning plays a large role on the islands in terms of output legitimacy, discussed above in section 5.1.8, aligns with the idea that output legitimacy is derived from output legitimacy. Accordingly, this thesis

provides evidence for the large role of first-tier governance in creating legitimacy. This is important, not only for determining the approach on solving output legitimacy issues in certain systems, but also for guiding future research on output legitimacy, where first-tier governance could be used as a starting point.

5.3.2. Second-tier governance

On the other hand, the rest of the governance system should not be forgotten. As argued in the theoretical framework, output legitimacy arises not only from value alignment but also from effectiveness. An example is in Section 4.4.3, that connected effectiveness to values. The aversion against overplanning, as well as the connected belief that this would cause opposite effects, was judged as ineffective. Remarkable was that in the findings, it became clear that output legitimacy did not only come from values, but also from institutional arrangements. Section 4.9.4 is dedicated to the importance of effectiveness. This especially came from a problem in coordination, where enforcement was not adjusted to policy measure. This came back in section 4.7.1, that showed ramifications in policy measures, as a consequence of lack of coordination. Topics, like enforcement and coordination refer to the role of second-tier governance in creating output legitimacy. This implies that institutional design also impacts output legitimacy, while the theoretical framework adapted first-tier governance as the main source of output legitimacy.

5.3.3. Meta governance

So, output legitimacy seemed mostly connected to first and second-tier governance. As described in the chapter on Lockwood's principles, legitimacy was closely interconnected with transparency, integration and capability. These are principles originating from the meta-governance order, as they are about governing, and not about 'hard choices' on specific issues as Kooiman & Jentoft (2009) call it. Still, the actual implementation of these, and were potential problems could arise, come from second-tier and first-tier governance orders. Still, in order to create legitimacy, not only value alignment should take place, but also values in meta-governance should be aligned. It is of no surprise, looking at these findings, that Kooiman & Jentoft (2009) end their paper on meta governance with: "*Enhancing the meta-governance quality of governance activities is an important value in itself*". This would imply that value alignment is larger than only contextual values considering output of policy, but also requires value alignment in governmental principles.

5.3.4. Role of input and throughput legitimacy

The findings suggest that throughput legitimacy makes an important contribution to the policy's legitimacy, as taken on in the theoretical framework. In the Wadden case, this is closely related with the governance principle transparency, discussed above. Input legitimacy was addressed a little bit in terms of representation of people involved in decision-making. This was criticized by some residents because of the large share of entrepreneurs. Still, it was argued in the theoretical framework that input legitimacy is primarily the product of participative quality. Remarkably, participation and involvement were not addressed by residents. It could be that participation is not required in the eyes of residents, when there is trust to leave it in the hands of the policymakers. Looking at community governance, it is true that this is less driven by participatory approaches, and more by representation (Connelly, 2011). A reason could be the small populations on the islands, which causes close contact and where it is very much known

what people want, which would not require extra efforts for participation. This makes it easier for small island communities compared to larger, populated areas, in terms of achieving subsidiarity.

5.4 Limitations

The research instrument measured what it should have measured. The policy analysis revealed the underlying core values of policy. These were needed to review how people reflect on these core values. The resident interviews eventually helped answering the interview questions. The descriptive research design aims to get an idea of the relationship between value alignment in policy and legitimacy. Although initially, it was planned to support the policy analysis with interviews with policymakers, it was decided, due to the wide availability of policy documents and time constraints, to get rid of the policymaker interviews. Although this provided a black box of values 'in the conference room' of policymakers, it did not affect the validity of the findings, as the policy analysis and resident interviews still provide a rich amount of information, and perception of policy is most important in legitimation, as argued in the theoretical framework.

Considering sampling methods, the composition of interviewees was diverse, considering their relationship with the tourism industry, but all maintained a connection with one of the islands, providing a collection of different values and views. With a set of 18 interviews, representation of values cannot be guaranteed. However, what they do provide, is a collection of thought processes in policy legitimacy, combined into a description on how legitimacy arises among the respondents.

The semi-structured interviews left a lot of room for storytelling and free input, which was a deliberate choice (section 3.2.4). In order to prevent extreme deviations from the topics, leading questions were sometimes used. Although leading questions can be used as a tool to stimulate people to release information (Dohrenwend & Richardson, 2008), I noticed there was a thin line between this and steering people in giving particular answers. Due to my lack of experience in qualitative interviewing, I saw myself crossing that line sometimes. Considering the low frequency if this happening, the impact on the data is limited. Additionally, I made sure to spot results where interviewees had been too led by the question. This was derivable later in the interview, where they sometimes deviated from this original response and expressed their views more clearly.

Initially it was chosen to compare two islands, that differ in many aspects (see Section 3.1.1). Eventually it was decided to not focus on the differences between the islands, but to sketch an overall image. Still, in the data analysis, these differences were considered, but appeared to be no remarkable differences, nor relevant for gaining a better understanding of the islands. Instead, the results showed many similarities and patterns across all data. Therefore, it was decided to use the diversity of islands as a strength to increase reliability. It would have been very interesting to include all Dutch Wadden Islands. Still, the scope of this study is limited to Vlieland and Terschelling, as time did not allow this. Consequently, this thesis does not take a chance to generalize the Wadden Islands, thereby still acknowledging the uniqueness of each Dutch Wadden Island.

5.5 Recommendations for further scientific investigations

This research collected a set of values and principles that enhance output legitimacy on the studies islands. From a scientific perspective, it is recommended to dig deeper in what characteristics of contexts and systems that prioritize certain governance principles. In this case, a few governance principles appeared to be more important than others. Already, an explanation was found in the 'communal' aspect of the islands, related to participation. Identifying patterns in contextual factors, such as population size or whether a region is an island, but also in governance systems, such as the number of governance levels and the distinction between institutional and non-institutional approaches, can provide valuable insights. A case study with Wadden islands, but then three different nationalities, would be a really helpful to in such research. This allows to choose three islands with similar demographics, but from three different nationalities (Dutch, German, Danish), and therefore also different governance systems and policy-making.

Looking at potential further research on the Wadden case, it would be interesting to do a quantified study in value orientations of people on the islands. As no conclusions can be drawn on the actual representation of values in the Wadden Area, but clear differences are spotted between the value sets of policy and residents, This could provide extra information on how people feel represented, and say something about the extent of output legitimacy on the islands.

In terms of communication, it is also recommended to do further studies on the role of participation in tourism policy on the islands. In the policy recommendations, there is no attention for increasing participation efforts. However, this is a well-studied topic in policy science. Still, input legitimacy was really a side-topic in this research, and therefore it is recommended to dig deeper in the role of input legitimacy on Vlieland and Terschelling. The findings of studies that focus on output legitimacy, such as this one, could be taken into account in efforts to improve input legitimacy, through a governance feedback loop. This is especially interesting in the context of multi-level governance system, as this study implied multiple deficits, regarding integration and knowledge of multilateral governance level.

6. Conclusions and recommendations

By analysing the role of values in output legitimacy on the Dutch Wadden islands Vlieland and Terschelling, this thesis has shown how values play a large, but complex role in creating output legitimacy, and at the same time its dependence on many governmental factors. The goal of this thesis was to answer the following research question: “How do residents of Vlieland and Terschelling perceive the representation of their values in tourism policy, and how does this affect the policy’s legitimacy?” This contributes to the problem of handling complexity in legitimate governing in multi-level system of the Wadden islands.

Value alignment in Terschelling and Vlieland appeared to be based on humans and their environments, essentially revolving around intrinsic, instrumental and relational values. Policy was perceived to focus more on economic profit, regional development, and the ability to experience nature, and conserving nature for the sake of this. The desire to protect nature was unanimous for both residents and policy, but for the residents that cared more about the intrinsic values, this led to the preference of separation of tourists and nature in policy, instead of providing this as an experience. Similarly, differences in beliefs on liveability with regional development versus keeping authenticity shaped how acceptance of policy. So, ‘care’ about the right goals was not enough in value alignment, but also required alignment in how these goals are approached. The implication of the complex role of values lays in the pluralist approach and focus on planning of the environment.

Value alignment was tied together with effectiveness in terms of output policy and achieving what it aims to achieve, and came especially not only from management, but also institutional arrangements. This tied output together with a broader governance framework, as described by Kooiman’s orders of governance. The good governance principles transparency, capability and integration played a crucial role in creating trust in policy output, in terms of process and communication. This involved relating to being open about policymaking process, awareness of policy, proper alignment of different governmental institutions and levels, and the ability of policymakers to make the right decision. These principles were more important than participation, as allowed by governance in small communities. Input legitimacy was therefore enforced by output and throughput legitimacy. These findings puts output on the map for its large role in legitimization, and simultaneously emphasizes the importance of a well-functioning governance system build around it.

Altogether, this thesis provides evidence for the close interactions between values, legitimacy and the governance system on Vlieland and Terschelling. This asks for a holistic, value-based approach in legitimization, where visibility and coordination are central. As from these findings, nothing can be concluded considering important values, no recommendations will be made on content of policy, or advises on “hard choices”. However, recommendations can be made on the way that policy is made and how it fits into a governance structure on Terschelling and Vlieland.

1. *Be open for change*

The position that this thesis places itself, emphasizing the importance of values in governance, fits well with Patsy Healey’s view that planning is not a blueprint but a dynamic, collaborative process (Healey, 2020; Alterman & Stav, 1999). As described in the theoretical framework,

Healey implies that planning should be continuous and open for change; therefore being dynamic, and evaluation is a tool for this. Looking at the large role and pluralistic nature of values, it is recommended for policymakers at Terschelling and Vlieland to keep evaluating tourism policy on the basis of values.

2. *Communication is key*

However, because of value pluralism, there is a limit in how much legitimacy can be earned from value representation. Therefore, it is advised to also focus on the process and how policy is conveyed. Building upon this, it is recommended for policymakers to focus on communication, within different levels of governance (for integration), and between residents and policymakers. First of all, to have better coordination between the levels of governance, to enhance effectiveness. Secondly, to inform residents on the strategy, so that their perception of policy is based on knowledge.

3. *Keep it local*

The principles are linked to legitimacy in Lockwood's theory on decentralization, mentioned in section 5.2.1, governing as local as possible, without losing on quality. For the Wadden Islands, it is recommended for policy legitimization to focus on local practices that are visible to the public. As local policymaking is appreciated, and multi-level governance was criticized, it is recommended to keep measures as local as possible, and give residents a sense of control. Also, drawing from the subsidiarity principle, and already implied in section 5.2.2, this requires an upgrade in human and financial resources, which could be enhanced by e.g. training of policymakers or funding.

4. *Approach legitimization in a holistic way*

Building on Healey's philosophy that values in planning are not the same for every location, this thesis does not provide a standard list of ingredients for a legitimate system. Still, looking at the diverse aspects that legitimacy is acquainted with, this thesis could serve as an incentive to approach creating legitimacy from a governance system as a whole. The need for a holistic approach does not only comprise efforts for legitimization in different governance orders, but also take into account different types of values. It is advised for policy to not only focus on economic values, but also broaden its horizon to non-economic values. This could contribute to a well-functioning social-ecological system.

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8. Appendices

8.1 Interview guide

Value of Nature

How important is nature to you? (Any examples?)

For what reasons is nature important to you? (e.g., the sea?)

Core Values in Tourism Policy

What do you think about the fact that Vlieland is focusing on so-called 'sustainable tourism'?

What do you think about the presence of rules or active interventions in tourism to make it less harmful to nature on Vlieland?

- What do you think about zoning? (e.g., certain activities being prohibited in some areas — motorized vehicles, jet skiing, vacation parks)
- How do you feel about the fact that Vlieland is car-free for tourists?
- How do you feel about the fact that Terschelling allows cars for tourism?
- No new marina
- No new permits for vacation parks
- Festivals

Are there any other rules that I haven't mentioned that you think are important?

Do you feel that tourism policy on Vlieland sufficiently takes nature into account?

Legitimacy

Do you feel that the tourism policy / the approach / the rules address the issues that matter to you? Why?

Do you think the tourism policy of the islands is acceptable / reasonable when it comes to balancing nature and tourism? Why?

Do you feel the tourism policy aligns with your needs? Why?

Do you believe the sustainable tourism policy is effective? Why?

(Does it do what it is supposed to do? Does it achieve what it should achieve?)

8.2 Consent form

202501

WUR - INFORMATIEBLAD ONDERZOEK

PROJECTTITEL: “The islands do not exist”: The complexity of value representation of Wadden Island residents in tourism policy

ONDERZOEKER: Silvie Kalkman (Student in de Master Aquaculture & Marine Resource Management)

LEERSTOELGROEP: Wageningen Universiteit en Onderzoek - Groep Milieubeleid (WUR-ENP)

SUPERVISIE: Glen Smith

Samenvatting:

Mijn onderzoek richt zich op de relatie van bewoners van Vlieland en Terschelling met de natuur, en hoe zij ervaren dat deze relatie wordt weerspiegeld in het duurzame toerismebeleid op de Waddeneilanden. Het doel van dit onderzoek is om inzicht te krijgen in hoe draagvlak en legitimiteit binnen beleid worden gevormd. Dit doe ik door de overeenkomsten en verschillen te analyseren tussen de onderliggende ideeën van het toerisme beleid en de waarden van de bewoners.

Achtergrond

Dit interview is voor mijn master scriptie aan de Wageningen Universiteit & Research. De scriptie valt onder de chairgroup Milieubeleid. Dit onderzoek is geen onderdeel van een bestaand project, maar geïnitieerd door mijzelf door mijn interesse in het onderwerp. Mocht u interesse hebben in de scriptie, dan kan ik hem na mijn deadline naar u sturen.

Wat gaat u ondertekenen?

Onderstaand document met Voorafgaande Geïnformeerde Toestemming is geen wettelijk bindend contract. Het is een schriftelijke uitleg van wat er zal gebeuren met de informatie die u verstrekt als u besluit deel te nemen. U doet geen afstand van wettelijke rechten door dit document te ondertekenen. Uw handtekening geeft aan dat dit onderzoek aan u is uitgelegd, dat uw vragen zijn beantwoord, dat u instemt met deelname aan dit onderzoek en dat u begrijpt hoe uw gegevens zullen worden gebruikt en beheerd. U ontvangt een kopie van dit formulier.

Wat wordt er van u als deelnemer gevraagd?

U wordt gevraagd deel te nemen aan een interview. Eerst leg ik mijn onderzoek uit, beantwoord eventuele vragen. Dan starten we, bij consent, het interview van 30-60 minuten. Dit zal een zogenaamd "semigestructureerd" interview zijn: Ik heb een paar leidende vragen, maar voor het grootste deel moet het gesprek informeel zijn.

Wat als u vragen heeft over het onderzoek of van gedachten verandert?

Als u vragen heeft tijdens het voorgesprek of het volledige interview, bent u altijd welkom om ze te stellen. Als u op enig moment vragen heeft, voor of na het interview, kunt u contact met me opnemen via silviekalkman@gmail.com. Als u van gedachten verandert en u wilt terugtrekken uit het onderzoek, dan kunt u dat doen tot 30 dagen nadat het interview heeft plaatsgevonden. Ik kan u om feedback vragen, voor het geval ik iets anders had kunnen doen, maar u bent niet verplicht om te antwoorden. Er zullen geen gevolgen zijn van de onderzoeker, afdeling, of universiteit als gevolg van uw terugtrekking.

Is deelname aan dit onderzoek vrijwillig?

Deelname aan dit onderzoek is geheel vrijwillig. U kunt ervoor kiezen om helemaal niet deel te nemen. Als u besluit deel te nemen, kunt u op elk moment stoppen zonder opgave van reden en zonder dat dit gevolgen heeft. Hoe wordt er met uw informatie omgegaan?

A. Gebruik van gegevens

Sommige van uw persoonlijke gegevens worden verzameld en gebruikt. Gegevens die worden verzameld maar niet gebruikt zijn onder andere namen, professionele affiliaties en contactgegevens, evenals gegevens die irrelevant zijn voor mijn studie, zoals geslacht. Data die worden gebruikt in analyses zijn persoonlijke meningen en uw band met toerisme en de natuur. Ik zal geen demografische gegevens verzamelen of gebruiken (bijvoorbeeld uw exacte leeftijd, etniciteit, seksuele geaardheid, enz.). Als u deze gegevens ooit vermeldt als onderdeel van een digitaal opgenomen interview, dan worden ze veilig opgeslagen, verwijderd uit het transcript en niet gebruikt in analyses en het eindproduct.

B. Bescherming en opslag van gegevens

Geen van uw gegevens zal beschikbaar zijn voor andere onderzoekers om te gebruiken voor hun eigen studies. Persoonlijke gegevens zoals namen en contactgegevens worden niet bewaard.

Alleen mijn begeleider Glen Smith en ikzelf hebben toegang tot persoonlijke data en interviewopnames. Mijn begeleider Glen Smith, tweede lezer Eira Carballo Cárdenas, en ik hebben toegang tot transcripten. Alleen ikzelf hebben toegang tot interviewopnames en alleen ikzelf gebruik deze voor onderzoek. In uitzonderlijke

omstandigheden kan mijn beoordelaar toegang vragen tot mijn onderzoek data. In dat geval krijgt ze toegang tot de specifieke audio- en/of transcripties van het interview waar ze om gevraagd hebben. Ze krijgen geen toegang tot uw naam of persoonlijke gegevens.

C. Opnames

Audio-opnames zorgen ervoor dat ik uw exacte woorden vastleg, niet alleen wat ik me denk te herinneren dat uw zei. Het maakt het ook veel gemakkelijker voor mijn onderzoeksteam, supervisors en beoordelaar om er zeker van te zijn dat ik niets verzin. Deze opnames worden met niemand gedeeld.

D. Openbaarmaking

Uw naam wordt in geen enkele publicatie vermeld (tenzij u expliciet vraagt om met uw naam te worden geciteerd). Bij het toekennen van citaten worden pseudoniemen gebruikt. Ik kan directe citaten gebruiken in mijn scriptie. In dat geval probeer ik citaten te kiezen die u niet herkenbaar maken (verwijzingen naar uw naam, baan, etniciteit of nationaliteit worden weggelaten of vervangen door een ander woord of een andere zin). Ik zal mijn best doen om ervoor te zorgen dat citaten niet naar u herleid kunnen worden, maar kan dit niet garanderen. Bijvoorbeeld als u een uitdrukking gebruikt waarvan ik niet weet dat die ongebruikelijk is, of als u een activiteit of locatie voor het interview kiest waardoor u geïdentificeerd zou kunnen worden (en ik me hier niet van bewust ben). In het Geïnformeerde Toestemming document kunt u aangeven dat u niet direct geciteerd wilt worden in publicaties. Als u illegale activiteiten vermeldt, kan het zijn dat ik ernaar verwijs. In dit geval worden er geen identificerende gegevens, pseudoniemen of citaten gebruikt. Ik zou bijvoorbeeld kunnen schrijven: "sommige deelnemers gaven toe X activiteit te doen omdat ze vinden dat Y."

GEÏNFORMEERDE TOESTEMMING

Deelnemerskopie

1. Ik bevestig dat ik het informatieblad met de datum 202501 voor bovenstaand onderzoek heb gelezen en begrepen. Ik heb de gelegenheid gehad om de informatie te overwegen en vragen te stellen. Mijn vragen zijn naar tevredenheid beantwoord.*

2. Ik begrijp dat mijn deelname vrijwillig is en dat ik me binnen 30 dagen na het interview zonder opgaaf van reden kan terugtrekken.*

3. Ik ga akkoord met het gebruik en de opslag van mijn persoonlijke gegevens zoals uitgelegd in dit document.*

4. Ik ga ermee akkoord dat directe citaten uit mijn interview gebruikt mogen worden in publicaties, rapporten, presentaties en andere outputs van de scriptie van de interviewer (als u 'nee' antwoordt, mogen delen van uw interview geparafraseerd worden)

Naam deelnemer

Datum

Handtekening

Naam onderzoeker

Datum

Handtekening

Silvie Kalkman_____

Als u dit formulier heeft ingevuld, stuurt u het terug naar de onderzoeker. Eén exemplaar wordt aan de deelnemer meegegeven en het andere wordt veilig opgeborgen bij de Environmental Policy Group, Wageningen University. Als je nog vragen hebt, kun je contact opnemen met silviekalkman@gmail.com

8.3 Interview transcripts

[Appendices thesis.docx](#)