The data-smart urban region

How (big) data can help us to attain problem-oriented, performance-driven, collaborative governance

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International drug trafficking (2016)

- MDMA
- Amphetamine
- Metamphetamine

Source: Europol, 2016; BrabantKennis, 2017
Dumping locations for drug waste (2016)

Source: Landelijke Eenheid Politie, 2017; BrabantKennis, 2017
Welcome to ‘the Sicily of the North’!
The Governance Challenge

• How to diagnose and define **problems** of which the precise nature and extent are unknown?

• How to generate **legitimacy** and support and how to build **capacity** and resources for solutions of which the societal gain is yet uncertain?

• How to ensure **coordination** and **collaboration** among actors of which the perceptions and interests regarding the problem (and solutions) are unclear?

• How to manage **performance** when it is difficult to measure whether societal loss has indeed been turned into societal gain?

• How to **empower** and **engage** public professionals as well as citizens who lack the skills or the attitude to play an active part?
The (Big) Data Promise

- Enhance agency/autonomy of public professionals as well as citizens
- Strengthen coordinative and collaborative capacity
- Improve problem diagnosis and definition

→ From rule-based, task-focused hierarchical government...

→ ...to problem-oriented, performance-driven and collaborative governance
The Organized Crime Field Lab

Innovation program, coordinated by Tilburg, Harvard, Oxford

Close collaboration with and sponsored by various public parties

Multidisciplinary teams, working on ‘real-life’ problems

Problem-solving process, collaboration space, accountability structure

Continuous monitoring and evaluation

‘Learning/researching-while-doing’
Example: weed plantations in local neighborhoods
Example: dubious money transactions
Data-Smart Strategic Approach

- Generating legitimacy
- Identifying societal gains
- Building capacity

Problem
GEZocht: Pioniers
Strategische samenwerking in de strijd tegen ondernemende criminaliteit

Sanderijn Cels
Jorrit de Jong
Martijn Groenleer
Boombestuurskunde

Evidence-Based Prevention of Organized Crime: Assessing a New Collaborative Approach

A new publication of the U.S. Department of Justice (2010) Trafficking in Persons report. The Dutch Public Prosecution Service decided to increase its efforts to fight human trafficking. The report identified the Netherlands as complying with the “minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking” but noted that the country could do more, especially for the 50,000 commercial sex workers in the country, of whom an estimated 50 percent to 80 percent were trafficking victims. The report also highlighted the importance of the Prosecution’s Office in combating human trafficking, especially in the context of the new approach to fight human trafficking.

Challenges to Gauge Progress
Seven years after taking the first steps toward implementing the new approach, the results were ambiguous. Key stakeholders wanted to be more aware of the human trafficking problem than before the Public Prosecution Service stepped up its efforts. New cases were often taking on responsibilities far beyond their traditional prosecutorial role. Politicians, policy makers, and the public at large had come to realize that, although legislated protection and social services were increasingly available, and that other forms of modern slavery, such as child labor in the Netherlands, still existed.

Overall, thanks to the new approach, much had been learned about the victims, perpetrators, and enablers of human trafficking. Even more had been learned about engaging public and private partners and about the role of the media. Processions had acquired new skills and developed a different mindset in dealing with a highly dynamic problem. However, it had become clear that the performance of processions, especially in prevention, collaboration, and communication efforts, could be measured. And while public perceptions of the problem of human trafficking seemed to have changed, performance indicators for police and processions had not. It was evaluated in terms of number of investigations.