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Contents

Foreword.....	5
Preface	7
Summary.....	9
1 Conclusions and Recommendations.....	11
2 The Dutch System for Quality Assessment of Research	15
2.1 The review committee for Geographical Sciences.....	15
2.2 Assignment and scope of the assessment	16
2.3 Scope of the Assessment	16
2.4 Data provided to the Committee	16
2.5 Procedure followed by the Committee	17
2.6 Aspects of assessment	17
2.7 Aspects of the Assessment Further Defined	18
2.8 Ratings.....	19
3 Geographical Research in the Netherlands	23
3.1 Urban Geography	23
3.2 Economic geography.....	24
3.3 Demography	25
3.4 Planning research in the Netherlands	26
3.5 Development Studies.....	27
3.6 Historical Cartography and GIS.....	28
4 Evaluation of Research in Geographical Sciences per Faculty per Programme ..	29
4.1 Rijksuniversiteit Groningen.....	29
4.2 Katholieke Universiteit Nijmegen.....	34
4.3 University of Wageningen.....	37
4.4 Utrecht University.....	42
4.5 Universiteit van Amsterdam (AGIDS and AME).....	48
Appendix 1 Discipline Protocol Geographical Sciences November 1999	59
Appendix 2 Curricula vitae.....	63
Appendix 3 Programme numbers and corresponding titles	65
Appendix 4 Research input and results	67
Appendix 5 Assessments per programme.....	69
Appendix 6 Preliminary Assessment Form	71
Appendix 7 List of Abbreviations.....	73

Foreword

It is with great pleasure that I herewith present this report on the quality assessment of the research in Geographical Sciences. It is one of the reports in the second round of research quality carried out during the period 1998-2003. Also in this period international committees of independent experts are assessing all University research per discipline.

The Review Committee for Geographical Sciences has fulfilled its tasks with great dedication. Eighteen research programmes from five universities (Groningen, Utrecht, Amsterdam, Nijmegen and Wageningen) were evaluated in a thorough and careful manner. I expect the judgements and recommendations to be taken into consideration by research directors, faculty boards, and research policy makers in the field of Geographical Sciences.

I would like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Review Committee for Geographical Sciences for their willingness to participate in this assessment and for the dedication with which they carried out this task. I would also like to thank the deans of faculties and programme directors involved for their carefully prepared documentation and for their co-operation during the assessments.

E.M d' Hondt
President of the Association of Universities in the Netherlands

Preface

In order to understand and evaluate the research being conducted in the broad fields of Human Geography and Planning at Dutch universities, the Committee members made themselves familiar with a very large number of publications and research reports. To supplement this source of understanding, the committee members met with Deans, Program Directors, and various representatives of the academic community in order to obtain a first-hand view of the scope, depth, and major achievements and problems of the various research programs submitted for evaluation. Based on these two sources of information, the Committee held thorough discussions making the evaluation process a joint and collective responsibility. Based on this lengthy and elaborate process, the Committee prepared this report, which represents as accurately as possible the collective judgement of all the members of the Committee. In the following pages anyone interested can find a detailed report on each of the research programmes as well as a general view of Dutch geographical research and separate reviews for each of the main fields of study, which were under review by the Committee.

Out of the detailed evaluation, I would like to highlight one major conclusion. In several areas of research Dutch Geography is operating at the frontiers of knowledge. This is especially true for urban social geography, housing policies, urban network analysis and issues of segregation and exclusion. In research in the field of planning, the Committee observed with much satisfaction the emergence of new approaches such as interpretative, interactive and institutional ways of understanding the role of planning in complex societies. There is no doubt in our minds that in planning research the Netherlands has become a world leader. The merging of urban and regional planning with environmental planning is another field where Dutch planning research is excelling. Dutch human geography has become much more internationalised during the period of the review. One might even dare to say that the level of internationalisation within the Faculties of Human Geography and all their sub-fields is equal to or maybe even higher than that of most European countries.

I am most confident that the work of the Committee, done in a systematic and very careful manner, produced a fair and well-balanced evaluation of Dutch geographical research. It is true that it applied rigorous criteria and in-depth analysis in all its deliberations and conclusions. It only proves that the Committee views Dutch geography as a mature discipline, reaching higher standards than in many European countries.

The draft report was sent out by VSNU to all departments and programmes reviewed by the Committee for their comments. Following the receipt of comments from some Programme Directors, the Committee decided to retain its original scores but allowed for some changes in the text accompanying the scores of specific programmes.

All the Faculties involved gave their full support to the evaluation process by providing full and detailed information concerning their research programmes. The Committee appreciated the warm hospitality of the Faculties during their site-visits, which created an open and constructive atmosphere and enabled the Committee to obtain valuable information.

To conclude, I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all the

Committee members and its secretary for their dedicated and committed efforts in conducting the evaluation. The reward for the Committee's work and of the many people who gave us support throughout the evaluation process will be the enhancement and improvement in the quality of Dutch geographical research which will make it one of the forerunners of geography on the international scene.

Arie Shachar

Chairman of the Committee

Summary

The detailed review process allowed the Committee to arrive at several major conclusions:

The schism existing between Human-Social Geography and Physical Geography-Environmental Studies has deepened over the review period. This might merit a re-evaluation of the Dutch Geographical establishment in terms of the future of the discipline and its future orientation and academic thrust.

The Committee became convinced that in several areas of research Dutch Geography is operating at the frontier of knowledge and in some specific topics it determines and defines the frontier. This is especially true for Urban Social Geography, issues of segregation and exclusion, housing policies, and urban network analysis. In the Planning Research area, the committee can note the emergence of new approaches such as interpretative, interactive and institutional ways of understanding the role of planning actions in complex societies. The merging of Urban and Regional Planning with Environmental Planning is another field where Dutch Planning Research is excelling.

By reviewing the detailed lists of publications submitted by all the research programmes, the Committee has come to the conclusion that Dutch Geography advanced significantly in its internationalisation process. This is true mainly for the Urban Programmes, the Planning Research Programmes and the Demography Programme. It is in the area of Development Studies that there is still a long way to go in order to expose its results to the international community of scholars. The Committee urges the programme directors in Urban Geography, Urban and Regional Planning and Demography to maintain their current policy of publishing a high proportion of their research results in international journals and even to increase this proportion up to the point where all major results of geographical research will be known internationally.

1 Conclusions and Recommendations

The Review Committee for Geographical Sciences reviewed 18 research programmes in the Geographical Sciences in the Netherlands. This is a much smaller number of programmes than reviewed in the former review process in 1995; at that time 41 programmes were reviewed. The main reason for the much smaller number of programmes reviewed was the fact that the VSNU did not include Environmental Studies within the framework of the present review.

The Discipline Protocol identified 5 major areas to be covered by the current assessment:

Urban Geography
Economic Geography
Demography
Urban and Regional Planning
Development Studies

By this definition it is clear that the Review dealt almost exclusively with research programmes which might be put under the umbrella of Human Geography at large. Except for very few programmes in the area of Development Studies, most of the programmes reviewed deal with human activities over space, applying either an analytical approach or policy orientation towards the very many human activities operating over geographical space on its many scales - from a global scale to the scale of individual-household behaviour.

The delimitation of the scope of the Review reflects a clear tendency occurring in the field of Geography over the last decade of deepening and strengthening the lines of work in Human Geography, applying into them methods of the Social Sciences, while distancing this new core of the profession from its traditional partner in Physical Geography and its newly developed partner in Environmental Studies. In many cases, Physical Geography and Environmental Studies are being taught and researched in separate departments and different faculties. This is, of course, not an administrative phenomenon only; it might represent a redefinition of the discipline of Geography where the core of Geography has moved into Human Geography (Urban Geography, Economic Geography, Demography, and Urban and Regional Planning) while Physical Geography, Environmental Studies and Resource Utilisation Analysis are shaping up as different disciplines with a new set of connections to disciplines of the Natural Sciences. If these trends persist for an extensive period of time it might bring, at the end of the process, the complete abandonment of the classical goal of Geographical Studies, which is the integrated, comprehensive understanding of the relationships between people and environment and the ways that these relationships have shaped the face of earth. This emerging schism between Human-Social Geography on the one hand and Physical Geography-Environmental Studies on the other, might merit a re-evaluation in the Dutch Geographical establishment in terms of the future of Geography as a discipline and its future orientation and academic thrust.

Some new research initiatives such as the Networks in the Delta Project at the University of Utrecht or some of the research projects of AGIDS (Amsterdam Research Institute for Global Issues and Development Studies) are heralding a new response to the threat of a deepening separation between Geography of the Social Sciences and Geography of the Natural Sciences.

The 18 research programmes reviewed are distributed among the 5 major areas as defined by the Discipline Protocol: Urban Geography – 2 programmes (UU – 01, UvA – 05), Economic Geography – 1 programme (RUG – 01), Demography – 2 programmes (RUG – 03, UvA – 06), Urban and Regional Planning – 6 programmes (RUG – 02, KUN – 01, WUR – 01, WUR – 02, WUR – 03, UvA – 07), Development Studies – 5 programmes (UU – 02, UvA – 01, UvA – 02, UvA – 03, UvA – 04), and GIS and Cartography – 2 programmes (WUR – 04 and UU – 03).

With most of the programmes the allocation into a specific area was quite obvious. With a few, there might have been a problem of definition because a specific programme might include several elements from the various major areas. In these few cases, the decision was made according to the main thrust of the programme. The distribution of programmes according to main areas points toward a major conclusion: the various areas are highly different in terms of their size distribution. The one area, which is highly concentrated, is Urban Geography. This area which is one of the leading sectors in Dutch geography is organised into very large research programmes (URU in Utrecht and AME in Amsterdam). Being highly concentrated, they are large in the number of scholars involved (with an average of 24.16 fte's and 11.3 fte's respectively in the period 1995-1999). These two urban programmes comprise more than 50% of the fte's in all the Geographical programmes in the period 1995-1999. It is evident that the field of Urban Geography, in the wake of the recommendation of the former Review, has been consolidated during the last few years and it operates in very large frameworks of a remarkable size, which is quite exceptional in any academic institution all over the world. These two research programmes in Urban Geography (particularly the University of Utrecht programme) received high ratings in the Review process. It is quite possible to conclude that the high level of consolidation of these two programmes had a positive effect on their levels of achievement. It seems as if "benefits of agglomeration" were conducive to high productivity and the high quality of these research programmes. The Committee recommends continuing with this level of consolidation in the field of Urban Geography in the future.

In the area of Urban and Regional Planning, the Committee reviewed 6 programmes. The total input of these programmes was 150.6 fte's, bringing the average size of a programme in this category to 25.1 fte's. The programmes in this area are clearly much smaller than the urban programmes. Still it has to be emphasised that the two largest of them (KUN-01 and UvA – 07) are the outcome of consolidation processes. Analysing the ratings of the various planning programmes it becomes clear that the two largest programmes received the highest ratings among the planning programmes, while the smaller programmes achieved lower ratings. An exception to this conclusion is the planning programme of Groningen; despite being of small to medium size, it was able to develop a distinct academic profile and showed high achievements in productivity and quality of research. It is evident that the three small planning programmes (WUR – 01, WUR – 02, WUR – 03) achieved quite low ratings. One of the explanations to this might be their small size. The Committee's recommendation is to consider consolidation of the small planning programmes in the University of Wageningen and to keep and nourish the planning programmes of Groningen, Nijmegen and Amsterdam as autonomous, full-fledged research programmes.

The field of Development Studies is comprised of five programmes. The average size of the programmes is 29 fte's for the period of 1995-1999. The IDSUU programme at the University of Utrecht was rated favourably by the Committee, both in terms of quality and productivity, and its viability seems to be ensured

through its co-operation with CERES research school. The programme is characterised by the quite unique nature of its research and high relevancy to many parts of the developing world. The Committee recommends maintaining it and to keep the support needed for its future research. The four programmes in the area of Development Studies at the University of Amsterdam seem to the Committee to suffer academically because of the high fragmentation. The diversity of topics and the multitude of research approaches seem to hamper the crystallisation of a major research axis causing the output to remain highly fragmented and possibly less effective in resource mobilisation and societal impact. The Committee recommends considering the possibility of consolidation and restructuring of the various Development Studies programmes at the University of Amsterdam.

As for research programmes in Economic Geography, Demography, GIS and Cartography; they cannot be analysed in terms of consolidation or fragmentation because of the small number of programmes in each category. As for Economic Geography, the Committee recommends not to develop new programmes in this area but instead to strengthen this field by appointing professors of Economic Geography within the existing fields of Urban Geography, Urban and Regional Planning and Development Studies. As for Demography, the Committee wants to emphasise the acute need to revive the programme in Demography at the University of Amsterdam, which had a splendid track record, but because of specific circumstances the programme has declined substantially. Because of this situation, the Committee decided not to rate this specific programme. It is quite possible that the best way to revive the interest in Demography at the University of Amsterdam is by attaching it to the Urban Geography or Planning programmes with special appointments in Demography. The only remaining programme at present is the one at the University of Groningen. The Committee was impressed by the high quality, relevance, and viability and it recommends strengthening this programme as much as possible in order to keep the tradition of academic Demography in the Netherlands alive and vibrant.

The Review Committee paid special attention to a major issue raised in the former Review: this is the issue of the standing of Dutch Geography within the international community of scholars. The danger of a discipline in a small country with its own language is to become parochial and self-contained within its own cultural realm. The Review Committee tested the level of internationalisation of Dutch Geography by examining in each research programme two main features: 1) the share of publications in international journals of high reputation. These articles in international journals are almost always in English, thus opening up the results of geographical studies in the Netherlands to a wide audience of international scholars. The Committee feels that this is the best guarantee for avoiding parochialism and for establishing the Netherlands as an important contributor to general knowledge. 2) dealing with topics which are at the frontier of knowledge and which are debated intensively in the current academic literature.

By reviewing the detailed lists of publications submitted by all the research programmes, the Committee has come to the conclusion that Dutch Geography advanced most significantly in its internationalisation process. This is true mainly for the Urban Programmes, the Planning Research Programmes and the Demography Programme. It is in the area of Development Studies that there is still a long way to go in order to expose its results to the international community of scholars. The Committee urges the programme directors in Urban Geography, Urban and Regional Planning and Demography to maintain its current policy of publishing a high proportion of its research results in international journals and

even to increase this proportion up to the point where all major results of geographical research will be known internationally.

As for Development Studies, the Committee recommends an immediate increase in the number of publications in international journals while at the same time to continue publishing research results in local languages in the developing world.

Operating at the frontier of knowledge and dealing in issues which are of the highest current interest: The Committee was convinced that in several areas of research Dutch Geography is operating at the frontier and in some specific topics it determines and defines the frontier. This is especially true for Urban Social Geography, issues of segregation and exclusion, housing policies, and urban network analysis. In the Planning Research area, we can note the emergence of new approaches such as interpretative, interactive and institutional ways of understanding the role of planning actions in complex societies. The merging of Urban and Regional Planning with Environmental Planning is another field where Dutch Planning Research is excelling. In conclusion, Dutch Human Geography has become much more internationalised in the period of the Review. One might dare to say that its present level of internationalisation is equal or maybe higher than that of most European countries, thus contributing to the advancement of general knowledge and achieving a strong recognition of Dutch Geography within the international academic community.

A more detailed evaluation of the five areas designated by the Discipline Protocol can be found in Chapter 3 of this report. Thus it will suffice here to conclude this summary by presenting a general overview on Dutch Human Geography which is based on the rich material which was made available to the Committee; the many interviews carried out with all research programme directors, deans, faculty council members, and students; visits in the various universities; and lengthy and in-depth discussions among the Committee members. Based on this, we can conclude that Dutch Human Geography with all its sub-disciplines is in a general good shape. During the period of the Review, many new fields were opened for study and research; Dutch Human Geography opened up significantly to the international community and in a few areas it already defines the frontier of knowledge. The average quality of the research conducted is good while the average productivity is satisfactory to good. The social and scientific relevance of most of the research is good, reflecting the deep connections between Dutch Geographical Research and policy formulation and analysis. This a feature which has characterised Dutch Geography for many years and the Committee views it in a most positive way, to be encouraged and deepened in the years to come. As for viability, it is impossible to average it over all programmes because each programme's viability is determined within the specific context of its university and research organisation. Nevertheless, we can conclude that most programmes are viable and only a few require restructuring, infusion with new faculty and/or consolidation within other programmes. The individual programme evaluations detail the recommendations of the Review Committee in this report.

2 The Dutch System for Quality Assessment of Research

The review of the research in geographical sciences is part of a programme initiated by the Dutch Universities to assess all university research. The outlines of this review system are laid down in general terms in the Protocol 1998. This protocol indicates that the principal goals of the review are:

- quality maintenance and improvement through feedback to the research group and the university management;
- management on the basis of quality through the provision of quality assessments to the boards of faculties and universities.

The review is mainly based on the assessments of faculty and institute reports. These reports consist of a description of the research profile of the faculty or institute, a description of the organisational structure of the faculty (including research institute or research school), and a description of the research programmes. Every programme presents a short description of its approach, results, and future developments. A main part of the information consists of input and output figures. The input figures give an indication of the research input in full time equivalents (fte) of scientific personnel for each year of the review period; the output data always include a selection of five key publications and an overview of publications. An important element of the programme description is the "mission statement".

Highly valued features of the assessments are the interviews, which the Review Committee conducts with the delegations of the faculty boards, the directors of the research institutes and the programme directors. The interviews with the delegation of the faculty boards are especially aiming at a discussion of the faculty's or institute's research profile and their research policy.

The focus of the assessments is the scientific quality of the research programmes. Other aspects of the assessments are scientific productivity, scientific and societal relevance, and scientific long-term viability. These aspects are assessed separately. A ranking, based on an integration of these four aspects, cannot be made.

This type of VSNU assessments is carried out per discipline, over a period of five years, by means of peer review. Committees of predominantly international experts are composed. The Royal Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) advises on the constitution of these Committees. Every Committee finishes the assessment with a report. The assessment reports are public.

2.1 The review committee for Geographical Sciences

By decree of 21 September 2000 the Chairman of the VSNU appointed the Chairman and the Members of the Review Committee for Geographical Sciences. The start of the activities of the Committee was delayed because one member had to withdraw from the Committee because, on further consideration, he could not make time for the procedure, which involved visits of several days to the Netherlands. The Committee comprised the following members:
Prof. Arie Shachar (Chairman), Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Prof. Chris Hamnett, Kings College, London
Prof. Patsy Healey, University of Newcastle
Prof. Ron Lesthaeghe, Vrije Universiteit, Brussels
Prof. Eike Schamp, Johann Wolfgang Goethe Universität, Frankfurt

Jan-Willem Meijer, VSNU, was appointed as Secretary of the Committee. A short curriculum vitae of the Committee members is included in Appendix 2.

2.2 Assignment and scope of the assessment

The Review Committee was asked to:

- assess the quality of the research on the basis of the information furnished by the university and through local, or centrally located interviews;
- advise how quality might be enhanced.

In their tasks the Committee had to take into account the general rules laid down in the "Protocol 1998" and the additional requirements described in the "Discipline Protocol Geographical Sciences 2000" (see Appendix 1).

The Committee had to base its assessments on:

- the documentation provided by the universities;
- five key publications per programme;
- discussions with representatives from all research programmes and universities.

2.3 Scope of the Assessment

The Committee was asked to operate in accordance with the VSNU-Protocol 1998. For the assessment of Geographical Sciences, this Protocol was elaborated in the 'Discipline Protocol for the Research Assessment of Geographical Sciences 2000'.

The universities participating in the assessment were (in order of the visits):

University of Groningen
University of Nijmegen
Wageningen University
Utrecht University
University of Amsterdam

The Discipline Protocol states which areas must be covered by the assessment:

Urban geography
Economic geography
Demography
Urban planning
Regional planning
Development studies

2.4 Data provided to the Committee

The Review Committee received the following documentation from the participating faculties:

A report 'Research Assessment 1995-1999', including a profile and key data of the Faculties, documentation for each of the 18 research programmes with input and output data and a list of publications issued in the assessment period.

A set of five key publications for each research programme

2.5 Procedure followed by the Committee

The Committee members received the complete set of documentation in September 2000. Each member was asked to complete a preliminary assessment form (see Appendix 6) as first or second reviewer for a number of the 18 research programmes, in accordance with their specific expertise.

The preliminary assessments, the documentation and the procedure of the assessment were discussed in a Committee meeting in Paterswolde (near Groningen) on 22 October 1998. At that time all committee members had completed a preliminary assessment of a number of research programmes assigned to them as first or second reviewer.

On Monday, October 23rd, the Committee was installed by the chairman of the VSNU at the Faculty of Spatial Sciences of the University of Groningen.

In the site visits the Committee had meetings with the Faculty Board, a group of PhD-students (AIO's and OIO's) and the programme directors of all programmes. The first round of site visits took place on 23 and 24 October 2000. The Committee visited the University of Groningen, the University of Nijmegen and Wageningen University.

The second round of site visits took place between 15-18 November 2000. The Committee visited Utrecht University, Amsterdam University, and had a final meeting.

Each committee member graded the programmes and the first and second reviewer played a leading role. The differences in voting between the members were quite small and there was a strong consensus of opinions. And as all members contributed to grading, the average was taken as the final-result.

The Committee was impressed by the open manner in which the conversations were conducted and by the frankness with which all questions were answered. In view of the tight time schedule that had to be observed to allow 45-minute interviews with all programme directors, the Committee in some cases refrained from visiting facilities.

After each site visit the Committee discussed the conclusions per programme. In the meeting of November 17th the Committee agreed upon the final scores allotted to all programmes. Next day in the morning the Committee worked out its ideas on a global goal for Geographical Sciences in the next five years.

After the site visits the Committee members revised the short texts about the programmes, in accordance with the findings.

In March 2001, a draft report was sent to the universities for factual corrections and comments on the reviews. In three cases, programme directors brought to the committee's attention their different views on scores given to their respective programmes. The committee carefully reviewed these comments and decided to retain all its original scores but to change some parts of the text accompanying the scores. These changes in the text were based on the acceptance by the committee of some of the arguments put forward by the programme directors.

In all cases the conclusions presented in this report are supported by the entire Committee and are the sole responsibility of the Committee.

2.6 Aspects of assessment

An assessment of each of the following aspects is required for each research programme.

Academic quality of the output of the research group: what is the quality of the results produced? What position has been achieved in a national and international context?

Academic productivity of the research group, taking into account the input of human resources.

The relevance of the research programme: what significance does the research have for the development of the academic field? In academic fields with a strong strategic or applied element this also includes assessment of the societal and/or technological impact: what significance has the research had for the development of societal and/or technological applications?

Long-term viability of the research programme: what is the viability of the selected problem areas and the approach taken to it, and what are the prospects for the research programme bearing in mind national and international competition?

In addition, the Review Committee is asked to assess the Faculty's research profile and to give a critical review of the situation in the discipline or academic area as a whole and in each faculty or institute concerned, from an international perspective. In this part of the assessments the specific context of the work carried out in the research group, faculty or institute should be taken into account.

2.7 Aspects of the Assessment Further Defined

Academic quality

Academic quality is based on the quality of the output in the research group as considered in the following: dissertations, academic publications, and, where relevant, professional publications, patents and other academic products (tests, prototypes, software). Aspects of the assessments include the academic level of the publications, with respect to the publication media in which they appear, the originality and coherence of the research, and the contribution to the development of the discipline or area.

Due regard is given to the international standing of the members of a research group in assessing the quality of its achievements. Note is taken of participation in international co-operative projects, membership of the editorial boards of international journals, academic awards, invitations to attend international conferences, visiting professorships, research funding acquired from NWO (the Dutch Scientific Research Council), etc.

Productivity

The committee assesses academic productivity by relating the output (the number of publications in total and in each category) to the input of human resources. In order to do justice to those groups with missions supplementary to strictly intellectually driven research, due attention should also be given to other forms of academic output. In the comment accompanying the assessment, the Review Committee therefore compares the academic quality and productivity with the objectives or mission of the research programme as submitted by the research group. The research group's policy regarding publications should also be taken into account. For this reason, it is not always feasible to assess productivity in the form of a rating; a verbal assessment may be more appropriate in some cases.

Relevance

Assessment of the output cannot be considered independently of its relevance: what significance does the research have for the development of the academic

field? Are the issues and the approaches chosen with insight, given the international situation of scholarship in the discipline concerned?

In academic fields with a strong strategic or applied research background the issue of academic relevance is inseparable from that of societal/technological impact. In the pure sciences the social and technological impact may or may not be important. It can thus be taken into account in the assessment. As in the case of productivity, here too the context should be taken into account and the relevance should be specified in the description of the group's mission. The minimum requirements for these missions will be a basic academic framework (is the work of a kind that can be expected from an academic group?). Furthermore, missions could include a contribution to the front lines of science; support for other academic areas or support for applied sciences.

There is a growing interest in assessing the societal impact of research too. Here again, the stated mission of the group should be taken into account. In the comments accompanying the assessment, the committee's views of the relevance of the research are set against the research group's own viewpoint as expressed in its mission. In view of the many different aspects of this criterion, it will not always be feasible to express the assessment in a rating; a verbal comment may be more appropriate.

Viability

The assessment must take into account the direction in which the research programme is developing. The committee should, as far as possible, comment on the viability of the issues and the research approach chosen in the international academic arena. In some areas, competitive strength will depend largely on factors of scale and the academic infrastructure available.

The cohesion of the programme should also be a part of the assessment of academic viability.

In the comments accompanying the assessment, the committee considers the future position of the group involved as expressed in the Faculty's outline research profile.

2.8 Ratings

The Review Committee is required to assess the quality, productivity, relevance and viability of each programme on a separate five-point scale for each aspect – it should be noted, however, that it will not always be feasible to measure productivity and relevance on such a scale; in such cases, a verbal commentaries can supply all the information required; to give a separate commentary on the quality, productivity, relevance and viability of each programme. These comments form an integral part of the assessment.

The committee discussed the working method that would be used for the assessment and agreed that a five-point scale would be adequate for scoring these above-mentioned four aspects (the final scores refer to the average of the individual scores of all Committee members), and that an additional comment should be added for each research programme. These comments are an integral part of the assessment.

The committee members understood that they had been invited to take part in the present assessment of the geographical science research by virtue of their broad expert knowledge of various fields of science research. The Committee therefore took it for granted that it should base the assessment of the different aspects on its own judgement in the first instance.

The 1998 Protocol allows the Review committee considerable freedom to interpret the criteria for the rating of the four aspects Quality, Productivity, Relevance and Viability. The committee has taken into account the variety in the nature of the research programmes under scrutiny. The criteria used for the judgement of each of the four different aspects are described below.

Academic quality

The scientific quality of a research group is based on:

- originality of approaches and ideas in tackling scientific problems
- coherence and cumulative character of the research
- contributions made to international scientific developments
- quality of the scientific publications and of the journals in which they appeared
- indicators of international recognition other than publications, such as positions in international scientific networks and advisory appointments based on scientific reputation.

Productivity

The productive functioning of a research group is made evident by:
the publications in international refereed journals and scientific books, which demonstrate the contributions of the group to scientific knowledge and understanding;
the number of PhD theses
presentations at international conferences and publications in the proceedings of these meetings
other scientific output such as professional publications and patents.

The productivity level was assessed by taking into account the number of faculty members (inputs) the number of publications (outputs) as well as other measures such as the quality of the journals, their international level, their spread of readership etc.

Special attention in the productivity assessment was given to the number of publications in peer reviewed international publications. Significant fluctuations in the number of faculty might have had an impact on the productivity scoring

Relevance

The Review Committee has considered the following aspects as part of the overall assessment of relevance:

- the advancement of knowledge or expertise
- the significance of the contribution of a research group to the development of its field with special focus on originality of ideas and approaches;
- the contribution of the research group to relevant scientific and professional networks of present and future users (government, agencies, industry and others) based on its specific knowledge and expertise;
- the balance between fundamental and applied research;
- success in obtaining funding from secondary and tertiary source.

Viability

The following aspects are taken into account:
whether it is worthwhile to continue the research topics, on the basis of the group's ideas and plans for the future (scientific prospects);
prospects of future funding of personnel and facilities;
continuity of leadership for the programme;
coherence of the programme.

The groups mission statement and plans are judged against the feasibility of developing or sustaining their research. Guarantees for continuity of leadership at a high academic level are seen as a major aspect of the viability of a programme.

The ratings on the five-point scale used have the following significance:

excellent	(5)
good	(4)
satisfactory/average	(3)
unsatisfactory	(2)
poor	(1)

In this report every rating reflects the average of the grading made by all committee members.

3 Geographical Research in the Netherlands

3.1 Urban Geography

Urban geography in the Netherlands has developed in the context of a background in Dutch planning and policy issues. This meant that, until a decade ago, much of the work was still quite strongly orientated towards Dutch domestic issues and problems. It was also quite strongly empirical in focus and the major Dutch geographical journal *Tijdschrift voor Economische en Sociale Geografie* and, although publishing articles in both English and Dutch, was still seen to be dominantly Dutch in orientation.

In recent years, however, urban geography in the Netherlands has made considerable strides forward. A great deal more publication in English language refereed journals is taking place, and in the last five years in particular, a number of urban geographers have begun to edit both special issues of prestige journals such as *Urban Studies* and to edit books emerging from international conferences. This has greatly enhanced the international visibility of Dutch urban geography. A significant proportion of Dutch work, though by no means all, still focuses on Dutch empirical cases which is right and proper, but the issues, methodologies and theoretical perspectives employed are increasingly international in orientation. This has enabled Dutch urban geography to take a major place in international literature and debates. Indeed, perhaps particularly because of the shift to English language publication, it can be argued that Dutch urban geography has ‘internationalised’ more rapidly than French, Italian or German urban geography. This has been assisted by a programme of visiting international scholars to the Netherlands and, increasingly, of Dutch scholars and researchers working abroad.

Dutch urban geography still has a strong empirical, policy and statistical modelling stamp, however. In many ways, this is a considerable strength and it should not be abandoned. In recent years, however, many of the innovative theoretical issues and debates have emerged out of Anglo-American cultural and social theory perspectives and, although some of these are likely to prove temporary fashions, Dutch geography is, to a significant extent, still firmly based in its empirical and positivist roots which has prevented it engaging in some of these more recent debates. In order to move more to the forefront of theoretical debate it may be necessary to engage more closely and critically in some of these issues, for example, the emergence of the so-called ‘Los Angeles’ school of post-modern urbanism which is currently making a lot of the running in urban geography. It may well be that this perspective is only applicable in the context of the USA and not in Europe, but Dutch urban geographers may need to address or challenge some of the transatlantic claims if they are to put themselves at the forefront of contemporary urban debates. To some extent, this is happening, with for example, the growth of comparative work on social housing and social segregation in Europe and the USA. Our conclusion is that Dutch urban geography has made very considerable strides in recent years, bringing it to the forefront of research in urban geography but to consolidate its growing international reputation, more international and comparative theoretical and empirical work may be necessary.

3.2 Economic geography

Economic Geography in the Netherlands has its strength in the close link to urban geography as well as to spatial planning and regional policy. This reflects the performance of human geography in the Netherlands, in total. Economic geography has a clear focus on empirical research concerning the driving economic factors of urban development - both in individual cities and the city system. On the other hand, it has increasingly got a voice in the international debate on concepts of urban growth and the meaning of agglomeration economies. Economic geographers in the Netherlands have partly taken up new paradigms in research on firms and urban agglomerations, which have risen internationally. Their international audience, which is reached by publications in foreign languages, is more European than non-European and concentrates on the smaller and larger neighbouring countries.

Economic geographers in the Netherlands never have lost their strong empirical focus, particularly in geographical research on firms. Compared with other European countries, they dispose of remarkable large data sets, which are used for systematic, and quantitative analyses on location behaviour and regional aspects of start-ups and newly emerging sectors such as ICT, among others. The academic utilisation of these data sets is not a major research front in the international debate. But they are an excellent base for conducting applied research and fulfilling societal responsibilities in the Netherlands. One way to make better use of this in the international debate would be to enlarge comparative research in Europe, e.g. by collaboration with European counterparts.

Economic geography of the Netherlands had a significant voice in the international and European debate, in the past, compared to other countries' scientific communities. This is increasingly put into question with the retreat of some universities such as Amsterdam and Rotterdam from economic geography. The Review Committee considers the re-appointment of a chair in economic geography at the university of Amsterdam as an important step towards maintaining the international reputation of Dutch economic geography.

Up to now, economic geography in its own right is represented by only one programme (RUG) in the Netherlands. At the University of Utrecht, it has a welcome strong impact in the URU programme. At most universities, economic geographers take active part in larger research programmes. Economic geography gets an important impact from this integration into different research programmes. Although this might enlarge the danger of fragmentation, it simultaneously creates the necessary flexibility to seize relevant topics and to co-operate with human geography and neighbouring academic fields.

It seems plausible to further make use of the strength of human geography in the Netherlands in urban geography and policy-oriented research and to focus on relevant topics such as the renewal of the economic base of cities and regions, urban labour markets or the spatial system in logistics. Concerning the economic role the Netherlands have in the integrating European Union, one of the promising research fields in the future seems to be transport and logistics, conducted in co-operation with neighbouring sciences.

Simultaneously with human geography, economic geography has recently turned to problems of regional development in the European Union and in Eastern Europe. The Review Committee would suggest to continue this strand of research but to consider more closely concepts and ideas discussed in Europe on these topics.

Economic geography, then, would be in a better position to study spatial economical processes in the Netherlands with regard to the increasing global and European integration.

3.3 Demography

Demographic research in the Netherlands is being conducted in a number of institutions:

The Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI) in The Hague, which is set up as a foundation and produces the largest output in the field;

The research sections of the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) in Voorburg, which not only generates data but also engages in analyses pertaining to the Netherlands and the EU;

The Population Research Centre at the Faculty of Spatial Sciences at the University of Groningen (RUG);

Selected topics in demography have also been covered in other universities, but none of these have a demography section in its own right. For instance, research on mortality has been centred in the Erasmus University of Rotterdam, and the demography of ethnic minorities is split between Erasmus University, the University of Amsterdam (UVA) and the University of Utrecht (UU). But virtually all of this research is not located in the Geography or Spatial Sciences faculties. By contrast, household demography has occupied a central place in the earlier AME-programme of the UVA, whereas this topic was systematically connected to the geography of housing and internal migration at the URU-programme of the University of Utrecht.

The evolution over the last five years can be characterised as follows:

The Population Research Centre of the faculty of Spatial Sciences in Groningen has expanded (as was expected in the previous report) and has substantially broadened its scope as well. It not only focuses on life course demography and on the associated methodology of "event-history analysis", but it has now included both quantitative and qualitative research in the domains of reproductive health, of population growth and sustainable development on a global scale, and of forecasting methodology. Furthermore, the unit has become active in a variety of programmes conducted in Southern India. In tandem with these developments, the Groningen programme has also extended its teaching activities at the postgraduate level, and it has become the main producer of PhDs in demography. To sum up, the Population Research Centre of the RUG is now the main university-based actor in demography, and as such it enjoys both a national and international reputation. At the University of Utrecht, household demography has continued to be connected to the subprogramme on housing and spatial mobility of URU. This applied side is its major strength since no other research unit has managed to cover this topic as extensively. On the other hand, this also means that demography is being contained to this single topic, and that there is little scope for other applications or for venturing out into other subfields of demography.

The demography section at the University of Amsterdam (AME) has been a partner of the research group in urban and regional planning, but aside from some earlier work on housing, the group evolved toward a less applied and more mainstream demographic analysis of fertility and household composition. This was complemented by an interest in the history of population projections and their underlying philosophies. However, virtually all of this work was discontinued during the period under review as a result of the retirement of two staff members, the moving to Utrecht of the housing specialists, and above all by the sudden death of the group's leader, Anton Kuijsten. The outcome was that demographic research came to a stop in Amsterdam. This is also the main reason why the Review

Committee, after consultation with AME, decided not to score the UVA-demography programme. Until recently, it looked as if there was no longer a future for any demographic research in Amsterdam, but during the site visit it became apparent that AME planned to recruit a new population expert. In this respect a strong preference was expressed for someone with a more applied interest rather than for someone with a theoretical profile. At the present stage this is logical, but it also implies that demography as a broader discipline is unlikely to regain its former status at the UVA.

At the level of universities the landscape of demographic research has changed quite substantially in the Netherlands. Groningen has risen in prominence, whereas Utrecht has just continued an already existing interest, and Amsterdam is seeking a way out from its current crisis. This means that the teaching collaboration (linked to oio's and aio's) between the three institutions has come to a stop. Even more importantly, the basis for demographic research as a whole has become narrower. The future for postgraduate teaching in demography in the Netherlands is now almost exclusively dependent on one unit (i.e. Groningen), and despite the fact that it performs its task very well, this is a too narrow a base for a sound future. A remedy for the current situation could consist of a renewed collaboration between NIDI and the various university-based cells, irrespective of their location in the Spatial Sciences or in other faculties.

3.4 Planning research in the Netherlands

The Netherlands has traditionally been very strong in the societal significance of planning work, as spatial planning expertise has played a vital role in building Dutch urban and rural landscapes. The planning research enterprise, which grew alongside this tended to be strongly focused on current national policy requirements and on traditional, largely positivist empirical studies, linked to the local Dutch context.

The work presented in this review process shows some significant shifts from this historic pattern. The three main planning programmes (RUG, KUN, AME) have all shifted to a more critical and questioning social scientific mode of policy analysis, and are engaging in more interpretative, interactive and institutionalist ways of understanding the role of planning actions in complex societies. All of them have retained their strength, despite various difficulties and re-organisations, and hold much promise for future development. There is also promise in the reorganised Land Use Planning Impacts Programme at Wageningen.

It is encouraging to see the strong interest in positioning spatial planning and spatial development within European space and European efforts at greater institutional integration, shifting the balance of attention from Dutch issues. There is also a much greater engagement with the international planning research community than a decade ago. In this international arena, the Dutch contribution to planning research is strengthening significantly, partly due to a positive orientation, good management and capacity in the English language. Other research interests, either new, or being pursued in new ways, include infrastructure systems (transport, water, waste management), the analysis of the changing forms of property and other legal rights.

This international trajectory looks set to ensure that Dutch planning research makes a considerable contribution to leading edge planning scholarship in the next five years.

There seems to be some general concern, voiced most strongly at KUN, about the demographic situation affecting the recruitment of doctoral students and academic

staff. The current age structure of Dutch planning programmes appears to be like an hourglass, with many older people heading for retirement and a lot of doctoral students. The problem lies in replacement of the retirees, as attracting and keeping good doctoral students gets harder in competition with a very strong labour market demand for well-qualified people.

One point to emerge from the various reviews was the significance of good management. This made all the difference in releasing the imagination and capacity of good younger researchers and focusing their efforts, at a time of considerable potential change in the University research environment.

3.5 Development Studies

Geography in the Netherlands has had a strong competence in sound empirical research in developing countries, mostly characterised by detailed place specific analyses. The organisation of Development Studies has been largely restructured, in the Netherlands, in recent years. While some geographers are working in larger research units on development studies, geographical research on development issues has been concentrated in two universities.

One of the results was that development studies within geography have been further reduced in the review period, although the former review committee had suggested strengthening, not reducing capacities in this field of research. The two universities still doing development studies within geography are the University of Utrecht with the IDSUU programme and the University of Amsterdam with the AGIDS programme. Both programmes are part of CERES. Both programmes have rightly expressed the necessity to overcome the now artificial barriers of the 'Third World' research and of area specific work and to integrate both into a broader view of development through concepts such as globalisation.

1. IDSUU has made large efforts to shift its research mostly from detailed descriptive field research on rural-urban transformation with emphasis on sub-Saharan countries, Indonesia and to a minor degree on Bolivia and Costa Rica, to the urban-industrialised areas in Latin America. The programme has taken up the suggestions of the former evaluation committee to broaden its work into comparative analysis, e.g. by way of comparative analysis of the urban-industrialised development in Southeast Asia and Northern Mexico. It thus turns to the analysis of 'successful regions' in the world system. In a strong orientation towards the globalisation paradigm the programme shifted from detailed field and case study research to a meso and macro scale of development research.

2. AGIDS still sticks to the impressively detailed field research of social action on the micro scale. This kind of research has a direct relevance for actions in development policy. AGIDS work is mainly oriented towards Africa, with an increasing presence in India. While the Udra programme deals with urban (social) problems, the Indra programme with special aspects of age, gender, and forced migration, the Redra programme is now unique in field research on rural transformation. In view of the role of rural resources for societies in the developing world this kind of research seems to be of high relevance. Altogether, this width of AGIDS work would allow for a larger staff.

Development studies at both universities are characterised by a large variety of topics and research areas. There is a common consensus to integrate development studies into a broader view under the umbrella of 'globalisation' whose theoretical

and methodological consequences have to be elaborated, yet. In making use of its broad empirical expertise, development studies in Dutch geography could contribute more to this kind of academic debate in mainstream international journals.

Programmes on development studies at both universities have been successful in closer collaboration with universities in host countries (Moi university Kenya, Mexico), enlarging the number of foreign PhD students considerably. By publications in the host country's language programmes contribute to a closer exchange of ideas both in the academic and practical world (e.g., Bolivia, India). Development studies at the faculties considered thus still make a large impact on societal trajectories in (some) developing countries. It has to be stated, however, that further reduction of staff at both universities would endanger the long-term viability of their research.

3.6 Historical Cartography and GIS

The Committee reviewed two research programmes in this area of cartography and GIS: The first was Explokart (UU - 03). This is the only programme of its kind in all Dutch universities focusing on historical cartography. The Committee was strongly impressed by the very high scientific quality and scientific productivity of the programme. As for relevance, the Committee looks upon this programme as supporting the cultural heritage of the Netherlands, thus making it highly relevant. Still the Committee had doubts on the long-term viability of the programme, mainly because of its seclusion from the mainstream of scientific work at the Faculty of Geographical Sciences at University of Utrecht and the absence of scientific connections with historical geography or modern cartography.

The GIS programme at the University of Wageningen (WUR - 04): the Committee was impressed by the high level of scientific quality and scientific productivity of this programme. By providing cartographic services to many research projects in the university and outside of it and by establishing a service centre for university user and external clients, this programme ensure its very high academic and societal relevance. The Committee rates the long-term viability of this programme to be of the highest order.

4 Evaluation of Research in Geographical Sciences per Faculty per Programme

4.1 Rijksuniversiteit Groningen

> 4.1.1 General description

At the Rijksuniversiteit Groningen the Faculty Spatial Sciences includes three scientific disciplines: human geography, environmental and infrastructure planning and demography.

The faculty participates in two research schools: SOM and NETHUR. SOM (Systems, Organisations and Management) is a local research school established in 1993 by the Faculty of Economics, the Faculty of Management and the Faculty of Spatial Sciences.

Researchers in the unit's economic geography and Demography participate in SOM. NETHUR (the Netherlands Graduate School for Housing and Urban Research), was established in 1994 by the University of Amsterdam, the University of Utrecht and the Technical University Eindhoven. Researchers in the units Planning and Regional Geography participate in NETHUR. Researchers of other universities participate in it via local research institutes (e.g. the Institute for Spatial Research (IRO) in Utrecht and the Amsterdam Study Centre for the Metropolitan Environment (AME) in Amsterdam). In 1999 the Faculty of Spatial Sciences, RUG, established the Urban and Regional Studies Institute (URSI), and nowadays all researchers participate in URSI.

Three research programmes are operating at the Faculty:

1. Firm location, regional development and labour market;
2. Planning for environmental quality and
3. Demography.

The first programme (focus: location of economic activities and the spatial organisation that results) has three themes:

1. The choice of location and the role of perception in location decisions;
2. The spatial organisation of labour markets;
3. The distribution of economic activities in space as an outcome of vital events.

The second programme (focus: quality of the environment and planning approaches to improve the quality) has two themes:

1. The interpretation of and the perception of environmental quality;
2. Planning processes and planning methodology.

The third programme (focus: populations and people), has three themes:

1. The monitoring of changes in populations;
2. The health status of the population;
3. The interaction between demographic change and environmental change.

During the evaluation period (1995-1999) new research themes were developed, specially aimed at connecting the existing research programmes in the faculty. The units Economic Geography and Demography developed jointly a new theme Demography of firms. A professor who will concentrate his efforts on the research of Demography of firms was appointed in December 1999.

University	University of Groningen	
Research Institute	Urban and Regional Studies Institute (URSI)	
Programme	Firm Location, Regional Development and Labour Market	
Programme director	Prof. dr. P.H. Pellenbarg	
Fte 1999	3.5 fte	
Assessment	Quality	3
	Productivity	2.8
	Relevance	3.3
	Viability	3

The programme's main focus on firm location and its impact on regional development is a continuation of what the former assessment report had called the 'Groningen Specialisation'. The then reported new strands on regional innovation and networks have not been strongly pursued, though. Instead, a major interest in labour market research has been added to the programme. Scientific output, particularly in PhD dissertations, spreads around a diversity of topics related to regional development such as physical infrastructure, minorities, language or warehouses. Sound application of quantitative methods and corresponding theoretical concepts constitute the specificity of the programme within Dutch economic geography. The programme is incorporated into the local research school SOM. It remains to be seen whether the opening of SOM to collaboration with other universities (such as Nijmegen) could be used by this programme to enlarge its scientific scope.

In the recent extension of the programme to what it calls 'firm demography', there is a clear methodological link with previous emphasis on quantitative procedures and firm migration, extending them by the perspective of the "life cycle" of the firm. Competence in this field has been substantially enlarged by the appointment of a new professor. Nevertheless, it may be necessary to more critically reflect the theoretical base of the firm demography approach. It may be suggested to link up with similar European research groups in economics and sociology and to theoretically overcome essential conceptual problems arising from the analogy of man and firm.

Productivity of scientific publications is unevenly distributed among the faculty members. One major topic being present in international publications is labour market research. It might be useful to strengthen international comparative research on Europe, in this field of research. Overall, the presence of the programme's results in international journals could be substantially increased. Furthermore, the review committee felt that methodological and conceptual issues of the programme's research topics could be discussed more intensively in internationally renowned journals.

The program has taken its responsibility for professional work in the region very seriously, in the past. Here, it profited from labour market issues and from the faculty's long-term firm panel. However, it may be concluded that the focus on the Northern Netherlands partly has restrained capacities for broader academic research. The review committee recommends reducing this kind of professional work in the future.

Concerning the viability of the programme, the review committee would suggest to put a clear focus on the main issues of the programme, given the relatively small input in fte. The solid but nevertheless routine perspective of some topics might be

complemented by further introduction of new concepts in order to strengthen viability. The review committee clearly recognizes the important work carried out on labor market geography. It had doubts about the firms demography approach. Whether it proves viable may largely depend on a careful reconsideration of economic and social theory for geographic analysis.

University	University of Groningen	
Research Institute	Urban and Regional Studies Institute (URSI)	
Programme	Planning for Environmental Quality	
Programme director	Prof. dr. G. Ashworth; Prof. dr. H. Voogd	
Fte 1999	3.9 fte	
Assessment	Quality	4
	Productivity	3.7
	Relevance	3
	Viability	4

This is a small but academically strong research programme, which has made sustained progress since the last assessment. The focus of the programme is on how public policy can contribute to the creation, improvement and maintenance of environmental quality. There is work of good scientific quality on the linkage of communicative planning with evaluation methodologies, on the development of pluralistic understanding of concepts of environmental quality, and innovative work on how multiple conceptions of qualities of 'place' and 'heritage' are made and re-made through use. The recent focus on infrastructure planning has good potential. A valuable characteristic of this programme is the degree of cross-fertilisation between the work of the different scholars.

The Programme has a good international profile, reflected in journals, books and participation in international activities. This is the result of a deliberate strategy to position the Programme's work in an international arena. There is good recent PhD work underway and recently completed, some of it published in English. There is a history of considerable engagement in research development and dissemination in the region. Staffing constraints have limited the extent of this recently, but there is a clear strategic policy for selecting research contracts appropriate to the academic mission of Programme.

The Programme has recently been affected by staff illness, which has reduced the Fte input considerably in 1999. However, there is a well-developed strategy at Faculty level to sustain the Programme, making new appointments to replace retirees and expand the 1999 FTEs, as well as supporting more junior staff as they develop their international academic reputations. Overall, the Programme has good potential for a strong future contribution to planning discipline internationally.

University	University of Groningen	
Research Institute	Urban and Regional Studies Institute (URSI)	
Programme	Demography	
Programme director	Prof. dr. ir. F. Willekens	
Fte 1999	7.93 fte	
Assessment	Quality	4.5
	Productivity	3.7
	Relevance	5
	Viability	4.5

Since the previous research evaluation (November 1995) the demography programme has evolved into a reputable teaching and research unit in the Low Countries and in Europe. It has an excellent international reputation and has been able to activate research in LDC's as well (e.g. India). Their materials are widely circulated, and they have continued to attract funding from a variety of Dutch and international sources.

The first area of interest is the monitoring of demographic change, and their most important contribution has been a set of population projections that are considerably more elaborated than those provided by other sources (e.g. UN). These projections have also connections with environmental issues and with the problem of food security. Furthermore, new statistical techniques are being explored in this field.

The second area deals with reproductive health, and this has expanded most since the previous evaluation, especially as a result of intensive fieldwork in India. Both quantitative and qualitative research methods have been combined successfully.

The group has also retained a major interest in theory and has systematically explored applications in life cycle demography. This has been a highly successful line of research as was already expected in the previous report as well.

The long term viability is not under threat given the unit's collaboration with the research school SOM, with the Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI) and with the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research. The group is, however, reaching a saturation of its capacities, and any further growth implies additional staff inputs to be provided by the university, as was also recommended five years ago.

4.2 Katholieke Universiteit Nijmegen

> 4.2.1 *General description*

A new legal structure for universities and the introduction of a new management system induced a complete reorganisation of the Faculty of Policy Sciences in 1998. Teaching is now organised in three schools (Business, Public Affairs, Environmental Sciences).

Research is now concentrated in NICE (Nijmegen Centre for Business, Environment and Government), the faculty's research institute responsible for the administrative co-ordination of programme-related research activities.

After a thorough evaluation at faculty of the 1995 Research assessments, the former research programme known as "spearhead programme" was replaced in late 1996 by a new one "Business and Policy Innovation In the European Context".

One of the three constituent parts of the Research programme of the faculty has the theme: "Innovative Spatial and Environmental Policy in the European Context". Following the decision by the VSNU to create two distinct assessment committees for the Environmental Sciences and for Geographical Sciences, the Faculty has divided the theme in two programmes the "Renewal of Environmental Policy Arrangements" (Environmental Sciences) and "Innovative Spatial Policies" (Geographical Sciences).

The three themes have been integrated in KNAW-recognised national research schools. In 1998 the researchers on the "Innovative Spatial and Environmental Policy in the European Context" theme joined NETHUR.

The overall mission of the 1995-1999 research programme was to deepen the understanding of the dynamics of spatial policy-making in the context of current socio-spatial developments, in order to contribute to improved management of spatial processes.

Within the action-oriented conceptual framework, spatial development and spatial planning are seen as complex and dynamic processes of interaction between a large variety of public and private actors, individual or collectively organised.

Given the researchers specific expertise the research programme is flexibly organised in three research teams focussing on:

1. Policy innovation in rural areas
2. Methods for spatial policy-making in European context
3. Borders and interaction

University	University of Nijmegen	
Research Institute	Nijmegen Centre for Business, Environment and Government (NICE)	
Programme	Innovative Spatial Policies in International Context	
Programme director	Dr H. Ernste	
Fte 1999	13.8 fte	
Assessment	Quality	4
	Productivity	3
	Relevance	4
	Viability	4.4

The Programme presented to the review committee is the bulk of the overall Programme: Innovative Spatial and Environmental Policy in the European Context (PIO). A small part, Renewal of Environmental Policy Arrangements (1999 FTE 3.7), has been presented to the Environmental Sciences panel. The overall mission of the combined Programme is to examine the complex and dynamic processes through which spatial development and spatial planning come about. It is oriented by an action-oriented theoretical framework, linking policy-making scales and relating research innovation to practice engagement. Within the Programme, in addition to the theme submitted to the Environmental Sciences Panel, there are three themes and associated research teams: policy innovation in rural areas; methods for spatial policy-making in European context; and borders and interaction. There is some high quality work going on in all the groups, both in contributions from senior scholars and from doctoral researchers. The Methods for spatial policy-making group has the highest profile internationally, but there are valuable contributions in all the groups. The quality of the Programme is reflected in its success with NWO funding.

Productivity in terms of publications in internationally recognised journals has not been high in the past, but there are welcome signs of a significant improvement in later years. PhD performance is also good, though with a fall in recent years, affected by completion and recruitment problems.

The Programme has a good record of research for external clients, reflected in the wp3 stream funding and in the number of research reports. There is clear encouragement from the Programme leaders to engage in socially and politically relevant research, and to generating research ideas at the interface between analysis and action.

The Programme is very well managed, combining clear Faculty leadership with sensitive encouragement by the head of Programme to develop synergies within and between research teams. This has been paralleled by selectivity, so that only productive and committed researchers remain in the Programme. There is a clear recognition that research needs to be positioned in an international, English-language arena. There is continual effort to promote a lively, internationally focused research environment. All this promises very well for the future development and international research contribution of this Programme. There are two managerial challenges the Programme faces. One is the difficulty of balancing the research dynamic of the Programme with the demands of the teaching programmes in the Faculty as a whole. The other is the shortage of well-qualified candidates willing to take up positions as doctoral students. International

recruitment is being looked to address the second problem. The first challenge needs attention from the Faculty as a whole.

4.3 University of Wageningen

> 4.3.1 *General description*

Wageningen University, which is financed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature Management and Fisheries, is facing major changes nowadays. The university has recently been integrated with the Agricultural Research Departments (DLO) and other research institutes, with the result of establishing the Wageningen University and Research Centre.

Wageningen has one faculty, i.e. that of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. Since the new legal organisational structure became officially effective, in 1998, the university comprises eight larger departments instead of sixty (in 1997).

In the year 2000 these have been merged into five larger departments. Basic to the new organisation is the matrix model in which the 5 departments form the vertical axis and education institutes form the horizontal axis.

In order to stimulate scientific co-operation and exchange of knowledge with related or complementary disciplines, several Research Schools/Institutes have been established. A small part of WU research is embedded in research schools commissioned by other universities.

In September 1998 the University was confronted with serious budget cuts handed down the Ministry of Agriculture. As one of the consequences the number of Chairs will be reduced from about 105 to 80 by the year 2003.

University	Wageningen University	
Research Institute	The Wageningen Institute for Environment and Climate Research (WIMEK) and the Graduate School Mansholt Institute	
Programme	Land Use Planning Inputs	
Programme director	Prof. dr. ir. H.N.van Lier/Prof. dr. A.J.J. van der Valk	
Fte 1999	8.0 fte	
Assessment	Quality	2.7
	Productivity	2.5
	Relevance	3.3
	Viability	3

This Programme was, until recently, working within the context of two Research Institutes, WIMEK and the Mansholt Institute. The work programme focused on the planning and management of rural-regional space, in relation to restoring ecosystems and examining changes in farming practices. This has involved both policy analysis work, and the development of concepts of integrated water resources management and multifunctional ecological networks. With a new senior appointment and a recent expansion of junior research staff, the Programme is developing a research profile focused around managing multiple land use, recognising the significance of identity and cultural history in places, using ICT to build spatially-referenced Decision Support Systems, and exploring the challenge of governance and knowledge management of 'open areas' in a metropolitan environment. This agenda is both very relevant to contemporary societal needs and intellectually challenging.

During the assessment period, PhD output has been low, as has the production of internationally recognised publications, though there has been a recent increase. Until recently, the orientation of research was towards contract work, primarily for a Dutch context. There is now a new emphasis on positioning the work of the Programme in international research arenas.

Until recently, the prospects for the future of this Programme were doubtful. However, with an expanded staff and new leadership, and the opportunity for linkages to other areas of related research in the University, there are good prospects for building a strong research contribution in this Programme. There are already signs of improving quality.

University	Wageningen University	
Research Institute	Mansholt Research Institute	
Programme	Tourism and Recreation Transformations	
Programme director	Prof. dr. J. Lengkeek	
Fte 1999	3.4 fte	
Assessment	Quality	2.5
	Productivity	2
	Relevance	2.5
	Viability	1.6

This Programme originated from several different departments, with a focus on sociology and land use planning. It now focuses on tourism and leisure activities. It has experienced significant re-organisation and reduction in FTEs during the assessment period, due to the general reorganisation in Wageningen Universiteit and the establishment of the major Research Institutes. There are now close links with the Mansholt Institute. The main current research interests of the Programme centre on the social processes through which spaces are converted to 'places', especially through the perspectives of tourists and those engaged in recreational pursuits, and through the concepts used by planners in shaping space/place. Transformation is approached through both a material and a symbolic dimension. These promising ideas are not yet well developed in terms of research output. Publication levels are relatively low, with only limited exposure in international journals and English-language publications. There are some doctoral studies underway, but few finished theses during the review period. There has been a history of contract research in the Programme, in both the Netherlands and the developing world, but this is now undertaken in the Research Institutes.

The Programme is now very small and its future survival must be in doubt. There seem to be some prospects for a merger with other Research Programmes in the University, notably Land Use Planning Impacts, with whom some contacts already exist.

University	Wageningen University	
Research Institute	The Wageningen Institute for Environment and Climate Research (WIMEK)	
Programme	Rural Environment	
Programme director	Prof. ir. K. Kerkstra	
Fte 1999	0.9 fte	
Assessment	Quality	2.5
	Productivity	1.7
	Relevance	1.9
	Viability	1.5

The programme has a clear technical mission, i.e. research and practical implementation of design strategies on rural landscapes. It aims at understanding and making better use of the relationship between physical characteristics underlying rural landscapes and their societal history, and architectural design. Thus, design takes special account of the visible elements of the landscape in their historic-cultural meaning.

The programme was, however, at the lower end of its workability since its beginnings, after reorganisation in 1996, given the small number of fte. This has even been drastically reduced in 1999. The proposed shift from rural landscapes to the rural-urban fringe seems promising, as well as the focus on water management, both taking cultural heritages into account. It has to be clearly stated, however, that currently staff is lacking.

In view of these restrictions, the programme has produced considerably qualitative scientific output, mainly through some PhD dissertations and related publications concerning sound and detailed empirical research. The programme urgently needs more reflection on the theoretical and conceptual base of its own mission and a more intense international 'embedding' of its research.

Quantity of academic work, however, was disappointingly weak. The number of refereed contributions (except congresses) was small already at the beginning of the review period. It diminished to rather zero at the end of the period. The total of research output remains small, even taking all academic and professional publications into consideration.

The review committee underlines the statement of the former review committee that the programme's mission is of significant importance for the Netherlands and its academic strength in planning sciences. In its present organisation, it is simply too small to fulfil the mission. As the programme is unique in the Netherlands, an extension and renewal of its staff would make an important contribution to the long-term viability of this research. The review committee strongly suggests joining this programme with other programmes, e.g. the programmes on landuse planning inputs and tourism and recreation research. The merger probably could overcome the problem of fragmentation always being present in small programmes, and enhance the viability of the programme's mission within the larger research focus of Alterra.

University	Wageningen University	
Research Institute	Production Ecology & Resource Conservation	
Programme	GIS and Remote Sensing	
Programme director	Prof. dr.ir.A.K. Bregt and Prof. dr.S.M.de Jong	
Fte 1999	6.5 fte	
Assessment	Quality	4.5
	Productivity	4.0
	Relevance	4.5
	Viability	5.0

The programme is one of the first groups at Wageningen University, which integrated the work of university department and a former research institute. The programme operates on three channels: 1) the educational platform which provides courses in GIS and Remote Sensing (RS) to the various programmes and departments in the university; 2) the research component in which members of the programme are developing new methodologies and new application in GIS and RS; and 3) a "service centre" for university users and external clients. The service centre is separated from the teaching and research components to ensure that there will be no competition in time and resources between the teaching and research functions and the services offered. The service for internal users is provided free of charge. The centre, similar to other modern and advanced centres in Europe and North America, covers the two major fields of Geographical Information Systems and Remote Sensing within the same organisational and conceptual framework. The *raison d'être* for this combination is mainly the fact that both fields are geo-information driven and they use quite similar software. The program, in terms of size and breadth of activities, is joining Utrecht and ITC as the first-rank level GIS and RS centres in the Netherlands. The programme is involved in various EU projects and it is developing academic and operational links with similar programmes in Germany, France, Portugal and Australia.

The Review Committee was impressed by the fact that despite the young age of the programme it has already shown a good level of productivity and a strong orientation towards publishing their findings in international journals of the highest reputation in the fields of GIS and RS. The quality of the publications was evaluated by the reviewers and ranges from good to excellent. In terms of relevance: the Committee is of the opinion that, despite the highly technological focus of this program, it is one of the most relevant to Dutch society as it provides a major service to agricultural development, land-use planning, geomorphologic studies, carrying capacity issues, and many more areas of analysis and policy-making. For the academic world the programme, being young and energetic, is pushing ahead at the frontier of knowledge and striving for theoretical and methodological breakthroughs in GIS and RS.

The Committee recommends that the GIS and RS programme should continue to be strongly supported by the university, ensuring that the balance between teaching and research will be maintained in order to allow the research activity to be pursued relentlessly without diminishing the important role of the programme within the teaching framework.

4.4 Utrecht University

> 4.4.1 General description

At Utrecht University the Faculty of Geographical Sciences is an integrated Faculty consisting of the following departments: human geography, international economics and planning; physical geography; environmental sciences; and cartography and GIS.

The research is organised along and across these four fields of investigation in the form of three research institutes, which were founded in 1997. Each of the institutes provides a local centre that interfaces with the inter-university research schools, which have co-ordinated programmes for research and education at the PhD-level.

The faculty is commissioner of the National Research school NETHUR, and participates in three more.

The research institutes of the Faculty which are relevant to the review are the Urban Research Centre Utrecht (URU) and the Institute for Development Studies Utrecht University (IDSUU).

The URU is the largest group and encompasses various sub-disciplines, for instance: urban geography, economic geography, regional science, urban and regional planning, environmental social science, demography and GIS. URU is one of the founding members of NETHUR.

The IDSUU co-ordinates research on process of social change in developing countries. Much of the work is done with the Faculty of Social Sciences. Several dominant themes within IDSUU are studied by means of comparative analyses in various locations in Latin America, Africa and Southeast Asia. These include the following issues: globalisation and its effects on regional production networks; the changing role of government; decentralisation processes; regional development and regional planning; and rural transformation processes and their effects on rural-urban interaction. IDSUU participates in the CERES national research school.

After the assessment in 1995, Historical cartography was granted special status, in order to allow the continuation of its research even in the small group only.

In the Strategic Plan 1997-2001 the Faculty called for integration and co-operation among the various disciplines, assigning this task top priority. Examples of new areas of co-operation are the core programme Viable cities in sustainable landscapes and the founding of a new Utrecht University institute Copernicus for Research on Sustainable Development.

The original Viable cities programme has elaborated into a working programme, called Netwerken in the Delta (Networks in the Delta), which will be in effect during the period 2000-2005.

The new Copernicus Institute, which is expected to be installed in 2001, brings together four university groups: Environmental sciences and Hydro-ecology; Environmental Sciences and Policy; Science, Technology and Society; and Natural Sciences and Innovation Management. This institute aims to create a clearer profile and stronger co-operation.

University	Utrecht University	
Research Institute	URU/NETHUR	
Programme	Urban Research centre Utrecht	
Programme director	prof. dr. F.M. Dieleman	
Fte 1999	21.3 fte	
Assessment	Quality	4.5
	Productivity	4.2
	Relevance	4.4
	Viability	4.9

The URU is a substantial research unit with a research input averaging 24 FTE's per year. Its research programme is designed to contribute to the understanding of the city as a complex social and spatial system. It is a centre of long standing which builds on large-scale research projects carried out during the 1970s and 80s and it achieved significant international reputation in the 90s. It consists of four teams focussing on: (1) The city and economic activities, (2) City, population and services, (3) Urban and Regional Planning, and (4) Quantitative modelling and GIS. URU accommodates all the researchers at Utrecht who participate in the Netherlands Graduate School of Housing and Urban Research and it hosts the NETHUR secretariat. It works on the basis that in order to gain insight into the operation of the urban system it is necessary to undertake analysis at both the micro and macro level. A key feature of the URU programme is the use of large data sets in modelling household behaviour with respect to household formation, residential choice, transport mode and locational choice of firms. The centre is well known for its high quality empirically grounded research. It also has a strong policy orientation and undertakes strategic contract research on long term urban policy development issues.

The output of the centre is impressive, with 20 PhD theses completed in the period 1995-99 and a large number of peer reviewed articles (110) in international journals and peer reviewed books and chapters (156). The group is also well represented on a number of national and international scientific editorial boards and organisations. The review panel was impressed with the long term strategy for the gradual replacement of retiring senior members of staff by junior members and consider that the long-term viability and reputation of the centre is very strong. The centre also has a strategy for publicising its work through the organisation of international seminars and publication of papers through books or special journal issues. This has enhanced its international visibility.

The review committee believe that the centre should continue to build on its existing strengths in empirical data analysis and modelling, but think it can further enhance its reputation by engaging in more international theoretical and methodological debates on, for example, the value and utility of statistical modelling of household behaviour, the changing social and spatial structure of cities, and labour market and production reorganisation. The special issue of the *American Behavioural Scientist* (1997) edited by van Kempen and Marcuse on the changing spatial order of cities is a good example of this, as is the special issue of *Housing Studies* (1997) on social rented housing in Western Europe, edited by Dieleman and Priemus. Contributions such as these link with wider international debates, and put research on the Netherlands into a wider perspective. In general, the review committee commends the efforts of the URU to take a key position in these international debates and encourage their continuation. In terms of its

scientific orientation, international publication and quality of research, the URU is setting the main direction of urban research in the Netherlands.

University	Utrecht University	
Research Institute	IDSUU/CERES	
Programme	Social-spatial aspects of processes of internationalisation and development in developing countries	
Programme director	Prof. dr. M.L. Vellinga	
Fte 1999	6.9 fte	
Assessment	Quality	4
	Productivity	3.3
	Relevance	3.4
	Viability	3.5

The programme on the social-spatial aspects of processes of internationalisation and development in developing countries is the successor to the SOREGIO programme of the Institute of Development Studies at the University of Utrecht (IDSUU). The emphasis shifted to some degree from the economic production and living conditions of rural and urban populations in LDCs to the impact of and the response to the globalisation of economies. The programme has taken an excellent track record for detailed field research on the topics of rural transformations (socio-economic, institutional and spatial aspects) in various sub-Saharan countries, in Bolivia and Costa Rica, and in Indonesia. The fieldwork on the "globalisation" part of the programme is most extensive for the Northern Mexican region. A comparison with the Malaysia-Singapore growth region is elaborated. However, while the publications are highly informative, they mostly rely on the conceptual debates of the 1970s and 1980s and are focussing more on macro-scales (nation and higher) than on regions. A more cohesive theoretical framework seems to be needed.

The themes are relevant and have been generally well developed. The PhD research by foreign students is to be encouraged further, especially given the reduction in aio's. The publications are, however, unevenly distributed among the staff members.

The productivity of the programme is good in the number of the PhD-theses, and standard in the number of scientific publications. As for the productivity of the professional publications, the number is standard to good, which also is the opinion for productivity as a whole.

The continuity of the programme is not threatened, inter alia thanks to its connection to the CERES research-school, but there are signs of a reduction in staff capacity. The programme is also vulnerable since much of the output is generated by untenured staff.

University	Utrecht University	
Research Institute		
Programme	Explokart: Classification and Accessibility of Dutch Cartographic Documents	
Programme director	Prof.dr. G. Schilder	
Fte 1999	2.8 fte	
Assessment	Quality	4.0
	Productivity	5.0
	Relevance	4.5
	Viability	3.0

The Explokart programm is a unique one in all Dutch universities. Utrecht University has the only chair in the history of cartography and the Explokart program is built around this chair. The research programme in historical cartography is dedicated to making an inventory, description and facsimiles of Dutch wall maps, sea charts, hydrological maps, atlases and globes. Explokart collects these types of cartographic documents and makes them accessible to university scholars and the general public. The research carried out in Explokart is basically of the type of archival research. The main academic output of the program is a series of major publications in the form of collections of maps of specific topic or the full coverage of specific periods. Some of these publications are of monumental proportions, which are unique, one of its type, contributions to the study of the history of the cartography. The most outstanding of the programme's publication is "Monumenta Cartographica Neerlandica" which is a worldwide inventory of rare Dutch cartographic material from the 16th and 17th Centuries. Up to now six volumes were published. Work has began on volume 7. Each volume in this series consists of a portfolio with about 100 facsimiles and a separate volume of text and interpretation.

The unusual type of research results in the publication of only books and very few articles. Explokart has a unique feature: the research work carried out in this programme is assisted by a large number of volunteers, organised in working groups and assisting the small staff of the program in their research and publication efforts.

The Review Committee was overwhelmed by the richness of the cartographic material, the detailedness of the descriptions, the vast work carried out in all parts of Europe uncovering unknown sources of cartographic material and the extraordinary commitment and devotion of the scholars involved in this project. There is no doubt in the Committee's view that Explokart made the University of Utrecht the national centre of the study of historical cartography and the international focus of the study of Dutch historical cartography. The Committee looks upon Explokart as the guardian of a major piece of cultural heritage and in this respect the Committee urges that the programme should be kept and maintained in the years to come.

At the same time, the Committee raised several questions pertaining to the connection of Explokart to the Faculty of Geographical Sciences and to the impact this programme is having on the advancement of geography. The Committee members felt that there are almost no academic links between the programme and the rest of the Faculty. The Committee is of the opinion that Explokart, which is

now anchored in the University of Utrecht, can be transferred and attached to many other institutions and public organisations. The Committee would like to see many more academic contacts between Explokart and large numbers of scholars in the Faculty of Geographical Sciences. The Committee recommends a reaching out process in which historical cartography might link with modern cartography and historical geography. To put it in essence: in order to ensure its long-term viability, Explokart cannot remain in the ivory tower, but it must become much more integrated into the fabric of research and network scholars available at the Faculty of Geographical Sciences. Keeping for much longer the present profile of Explokart as an isolated group is decreasing the level of viability of the programme.

4.5 Universiteit van Amsterdam (AGIDS and AME)

> 4.5.1 General

The Faculty of Environmental Sciences and the departments of planning, social geography and sociology have all been integrated in the ‘mega’ Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences.

1. The Amsterdam Research Institute for Global Issues and Development Studies (AGIDS)

The Amsterdam Research Institute for Global Issues and Development Studies (AGIDS) was officially established in 1997. It is part of the Netherlands Research School for Resource Studies for Development (CERES).

AGIDS emerged from an amalgamation of four research groups within the former Faculty of Environmental Sciences. Currently, it comprises six research groups, four of which are included in this assessment. The newly established Centre for Maritime Research (MARE) only joined the ranks of the institute at the end of 1999. The HEDRA (Reproductive Health and Development) group that was integrated in AGIDS early 1999 will be assessed separately.

The Faculty of Environmental Sciences has been undergoing a profound restructuring process during the assessment period, the second one in the 1990s.

In 1999 AGIDS consisted of five groups of research associates; another group, MARE, was in preparation and started in 2000. These groups are:

AGIDS-REDRA: Resources, Environment and Development Research Associates

AGIDS-UDRA: Urban Development Research Associates

AGIDS-ISTRA: Identity, State and Territoriality Research Associates

AGIDS-InDRA: International Development Research Associates

AGIDS-HEDRA: Health and development Research Associates

AGIDS seeks to execute its mission in close collaboration with CERES. The school manages seven “working programmes”, of which AGIDS participates in the following four:

- Natural Resource Management: knowledge transfer, social insecurity and cultural coping (participation by REDRA and MARE)
- Rural transformation: resources, adaptations and linkages (REDRA participation until 1998)
- Comparative Industrialisation and Urbanisation (participation by UDRA)
- State Formation and Disintegration (participation by ISTRA and InDRA)
- Health, Wellbeing and Population Dynamics (participation by HEDRA)

2. The Amsterdam Study Centre for the Metropolitan Environment (AME)

The Amsterdam Study Centre for the Metropolitan Environment (AME) is part of NETHUR. AME was founded in 1993. Research was mostly organised along the departments of planning, social geography and sociology etc. Gradually, new programmes were set up, with the explicit aim to integrate the various disciplines.

At the beginning of the period under review, 1995, the research was organised in five thematic groups:

1. Population and living environment;
2. Economic activity, mobility and environment;
3. Construction and real estate economy;
4. Types of urbanity and urban culture;
5. Planning and government.

During the period 1995-1999 the organisation of the programme changed several times. One reason has to do with the VSNU-quality assessment in 1995, after which the programme on “Economic activity, mobility and environment” was terminated in 1996. Another reason was the withdrawal of the economic faculty from AME, which was the reason why the programme on “Construction and real estate economy” ended. Another major influence has to do with the dynamics in the institute itself, which was in reorganisation during several years, which meant that vacancies could scarcely be filled.

The programme “Population forecasting and steering of the housing market” was seriously hampered by the departure of professor Hooijmeijer to Utrecht.

After the 5-years programmes, started in 1993, came to an end, the research was organised in three broad thematic groups, subdivided in ten sub-themes. In 1998 a choice was made for three main themes, and at the end of 1999 the research programme was organised in the next three programme groups:

1. Segregation and Time-Spatial behaviour

- Social spatial configurations
- Segregation and social participation
- Time/Spatial behaviour
- Public Space

2. Social demography and spatial mobility

- Social demography
- Spatial mobility

3. Institutional and Spatial development of city and region

- Spatial and institutional development of regions in Europe
- Space and representation
- Environmental policy
- Economic spatial developments and policy regimes

University	University of Amsterdam	
Research Institute	The Amsterdam research Institute for Global Issues and Development Studies (AGIDS)	
Programme	The Social and Geographical Dynamics of Natural Resource Management and Livelihood Security (REDRA)	
Programme director	Prof. dr. A.J. Dietz	
Fte 1999	7.5 fte	
Assessment	Quality	3.6
	Productivity	3.1
	Relevance	3.7
	Viability	3.5

The mission of the programme is on human societies coping with scarce natural resources in situation of uncertainty and risk, with special focus on rural areas in developing countries. The concept of political ecology and new institutional approach (entitlement concept) sets a challenging framework and puts the programme into a current strand of the international debate. Having said this, it has to be stated that most of its work is empirical, sometimes descriptive, with a clear proximity to societal practice. The programme has a strength in research on Africa, to a lesser degree on India. The programme has a good tradition to do research both in the francophone and the anglophone Africa.

Although maintaining its traditional strength in research on drylands and pastoralism the programme has made considerable progress during the evaluation period in shifting its focus from studies in livelihood in general to research on precarious situations of risk and uncertainty, environmental stress and the struggle for sustainability. Furthermore, research has been extended to new fields of environmental conditions, i.e. humid tropics and marine areas. The decision to establish a new programme MARE has reduced the danger of decreasing cohesion by extending the programme too far. Internal cohesion which distinguished the programme in the past seems to be maintained.

The programme has a considerable input from wp3 which is a clear indicator of its societal relevance. Scientific output is quite good, with a considerable number of PhD theses, partly worked out by students from Africa. The review committee took notice of the problem that field research might increasingly be endangered in countries with politically unstable situations. Publications are unevenly distributed between book chapters and papers in peer reviewed articles. There is sound empirical research. However, theoretical debate could be strengthened in publications, and so could international publications. Societal relevance of the work seems to be high but it is not always clear whether publications reach their audience in host country societies. In total, however, the programme is of considerable relevance given the traditional strong competence of Dutch geography in research on societies in developing countries outside Europe.

The programme seems viable, even with the loss of a programme member who has contributed much to the work of the programme in the francophone Africa. It has to be considered, however, that the programme is of smaller size, with 7.0 fte on average. Extension towards new fields of research (such as low land water management) should be considered carefully in terms of not endangering the cohesion of the programme. There is an uneasy feeling expressed in the

programme report concerning the artificial division between geographical research in industrialised countries and in so-called developing countries. Although this meets the view of the review committee it should be realised that comparative research is only a preliminary step for overcoming theoretical difficulties.

University	University of Amsterdam	
Research Institute	The Amsterdam research Institute for Global Issues and Development Studies (AGIDS)	
Programme	Urban Livelihoods and Environment (UDRA)	
Programme director	Prof. dr. G.A. de Bruijne and Prof. dr. I.S.A. Baud	
Fte 1999	5.2 fte	
Assessment	Quality	3.2
	Productivity	3.5
	Relevance	3.8
	Viability	2.6

The mission of the programme is the research on urban livelihood and environment, almost exclusively done in the developing world. It is, thus, a counterpart to REDRA to which some overlaps in studies on small-scale enterprises and household economies emerge. The programme gives the impression that its members still had to struggle for a common theme. Starting from the heterogeneous scientific background of its members, a diversity of research has been done on, e.g., urban management in Africa, migration in the Americas, conflict on resource use in Indian fisheries. In the course of the review period, the programme shifted to two major themes, i.e. to urban environmental management and human resource development (in urban environments). While the second issue had already resulted in scientific publications of good quality, the first still is in the stage of conference papers and progress reports. Nevertheless, the programme envisages an extension of this issue to local governance, habitat and sustainability, in the period to come. The human resource issue, however, will be focussed on problems of training and educational institutions in industrial districts.

In view of the restricted number and the still high heterogeneity of staff it might be difficult to establish some kind of cohesion of the programme. The programme had started with small size and was reduced even further towards the end of the evaluation period. Moreover, much of the staff is dependent on external financial resources.

Quality of scientific publications is somewhat unevenly distributed. Some work is of high standard, while some other work is largely descriptive. While the programme seems to be well represented by publications in host countries it suffers from a low profile in well known international journals.

The research themes in the programme are considered of high societal and academic relevance. This is clearly demonstrated by the professional publications and publications in host countries.

Nevertheless, further efforts will prove helpful in providing a more viable basis for the program. As it stands now, it is evident that the meager resources in staff and finance may not ensure the viability of the program, given its broad thematic structure. In addition, the fact that the program director is on a part-time appointment might weaken the program if synergetic gains from co-operation with the Free University of Amsterdam will not materialize.

University	University of Amsterdam	
Research Institute	The Amsterdam research Institute for Global Issues and Development Studies (AGIDS)	
Programme	Gender, Ethnicity and Childhood (InDRA)	
Programme director	Prof.dr. J.Schrijvers	
Fte 1999	6.6 fte	
Assessment	Quality	3.5
	Productivity	3.4
	Relevance	3.4
	Viability	2.9

This Programme consists of a small, but lively and reasonably productive team. Its agenda focuses on how people cope with major transformations, particularly associated with refugee situations. It uses concepts of identity, built around work on gender and ethnicity, and the role of public policy in shaping the identities of those who find themselves in refugee situations. In terms of research methodology, the team draws on a rich portfolio of qualitative methods, grounded in social anthropology. Developed initially on 'south' world situations, there are interesting moves to develop research in 'north' contexts. A particularly interesting strand of development is from a focus on children and young people's experiences of identity formation in transformation situations to a life cycle concept of ageing and 'agehood'. The team works collaboratively and has recently expanded the numbers of doctoral students. There is potential for a high quality contribution of international relevance from the team, re-inforced by NWO support for doctoral studentships.

The Programme has now a good current body of doctoral students, largely supported by external funds, but output of PhDs in the review period was low. There are some good quality publications, with signs of expansion in then post-review period. One problem the Programme has faced is that the ratio of tenured academics and doctoral researchers is low, which means that supervision of PhDs reduces the output of the tenured academics.

The Programme is of high potential relevance and there is strong societal interest in the subject, both from within the Netherlands and overseas. Up to now, there has not been a strong tradition of applied work for specific clients, though the Programme has much to offer in this respect. There is strong student interest in the research agenda, which adds to the viability of the Programme. However, the Programme is already small in terms of tenured staff, and will get smaller with the retirement of the Professor in 2002. There is a strong case for a new professorial appointment and for merger to form a larger Programme. This should be possible without loss to the distinctive agenda the Programme has currently developed.

University	University of Amsterdam	
Research Institute	The Amsterdam research Institute for Global Issues and Development Studies (AGIDS)	
Programme	The nationalities problem in Eastern and Western Europe (ISTRA)	
Programme director	Dr. H. Knippenberg	
Fte 1999	4.5 fte	
Assessment	Quality	3.5
	Productivity	3.0
	Relevance	3.6
	Viability	3.2

ISTRA is a small research unit with an average input of 4 fte during the review period. The majority of the staff consists of WPI's. The focus of the group is on political geography, and more particularly on the "relationship between the state, nation-building and territory". It mainly addresses the outcomes of ethnic or regional issues within the political framework of central states and border areas. As such, attention is focussed on identity construction, political arrangements, legitimacy and conflict. This is an important area of studies, and it is often covered by programmes in political science as well.

ISTRA's mission promises a comparative analysis of outcomes and their determinants, but the output is mostly a set of in-depth descriptions of cases. The quality of these case studies is convincing and shows the versatility of the ISTRA members. It is claimed that during the review period the focus has partly shifted from one based on case studies to one which tries to develop a general theoretical framework, and it is the intention of the group to strengthen such comparative theoretical work. This is important if the group wishes to achieve a wider impact and greater visibility.

The output is relatively small (no PhD-theses completed since 1996; relatively small number of articles in non-Dutch international journals, but several monographs), which is partially due to the small size of the unit itself. Nevertheless, given their research on a variety of countries, the output could have found its way to journals other than the Amsterdam based one (of the 19 papers that were peer reviewed, 12 were in the "home" journal). Hence, it is crucial for a group with an international focus to adopt an equally international publication policy.

The longer term viability of the group may not be assured given that one of its leading senior members is about to retire, and that the group's output is more closely connected to political science than to human geography.

University	University of Amsterdam	
Research Institute	Amsterdam Study Centre for the Metropolitan Environment (AME)	
Programme	Segregation and Time/Spatial Behaviour	
Programme director	Prof. dr. S. Musterd	
Fte 1999	10.3 fte	
Assessment	Quality	3.1
	Productivity	3.5
	Relevance	3.1
	Viability	3.3

The mission of the AME is to study problems affecting metropolitan areas and the centre is organised into three research programmes. The programme on Segregation and time/spatial behaviour is of medium size, with an average of 11 FTE's over the assessment period. It consists of four main themes: (1) the analysis of socio-spatial configurations, (2) segregation and social participation, (3) time and spatial behaviour and (4) the use of urban public space. The programme continues a long tradition of work in Amsterdam on social segregation and conditioning effects of environments.. The research is both theoretically and empirically based and focuses, among other things, on the question of whether Dutch cities exhibit a high level of segregation, the consequences and policies, and the general role of welfare states in modifying the differences in segregation between cities Much of the work involved in theme 1 consists of spatial analysis using micro scale aggregate data and is relatively descriptive in nature with some links to more macro scale considerations.

The review committee were impressed with the good output of PhD students, though they noted that several students have not completed their theses. The number of peer reviewed papers in international journals was good but could be increased. The strategy of editing special issues of journals such as *Urban Studies* and publishing the papers from international conferences is a sound one which puts the work of the group into a set of wider international debates. The committee noted that members of group were strongly involved in comparative European research projects such as URBEX and Cost Civitas.

The committee took the view that while the research work undertaken by the group was very sound, and was addressing international issues on ethnic residential segregation, it could be further strengthened by more theoretical and empirical work on the social consequences of segregation in terms of attitudes, activities and behaviour such as the work on school segregation by Karsten and Gramberg.

In addition, more work, such as that by de Vos, could be done on the impact of compositional or area effects on social behaviour. This is an important issue which merits further attention.

Finally, more work could be done comparing the changing nature and structure of segregation in Amsterdam with other European and American cities (such as the work of Massey and Denton) to formulate cross-national theoretical and empirical generalisations.

This would assist in further developing the growing international profile of the group which is already recognised in several edited books and edited special issues of journals and in co-ordinating international research programmes

University	University of Amsterdam
Research Institute	Amsterdam Study Centre for the Metropolitan Environment (AME)
Programme	Social Demography and Spatial Mobility
Programme director	Prof. ir. F. Le Clerq
Fte 1999	7.5 fte
Assessment	Because of the special circumstances of this programme the review committee decided not to give any grades to this programme.

The sections on social demography and on spatial mobility are jointly submitted for reviewing. However, there is no link between both, and the joint submission was necessitated by specific problems in each of the parts.

The social demography programme has only been in operation for a part of the review period. This was caused by the retirement of a senior part time member, the earlier than foreseen retirement of another staff member, the leaving of the two members specialised in the intersection between demography and housing, and above all by the sudden death of the programme leader and inspirator. As a consequence the programme came to a complete stop. For some time it was believed that this was also the end of demography at the University of Amsterdam, and hence the end of a long and strong tradition. It seems, however, that the faculty is reconsidering this situation and is planning to start all over again with one appointment in applied demography. At present, this is logical given the scarcity of positions, but in the longer run it is doubtful that the University of Amsterdam will regain its former high status in this field.

The spatial mobility sub-programme operated over the total review period. It is principally oriented to study the relationship between public transport and urban planning. In this field of activity, the sub-programme is unique and fits well into the strong emphasis on planning in AME. Input in terms of fte was rather small, however. The sub-programme was mostly dedicated to do professional work, and, by this, proved its social relevance. The sub-programme was invisible, however, to the international audience. Results were presented on international conferences, but there is a clear need for publications of articles in international journals. Due to the very limited staff and professional overload quantity and quality of scientific publications seem to be rather poor.

The sub-programme has been considerably strengthened by the appointment of a post-doc from Utrecht and an aio, recently. In its major themes such as model building on multimodal public mobility and long-term residential choice behaviour the sub-programme has a strong planning perspective. There is almost no link to social demography issues in research practice. In order to make the sub-programme viable, proximity to research groups in urban planning or urban economics seem to be more promising.

University	University of Amsterdam	
Research Institute	Amsterdam Study Centre for the Metropolitan Environment (AME)	
Programme	Institutional and Spatial Development of City and Region	
Programme director	Prof. dr. W.G.M.Salet (from 1999), Prof. dr. H. van der Wusten (to 1999) Prof. dr. A. Faludi (to end 1998)	
Fte 1999	12.2 fte	
Assessment	Quality	4
	Productivity	4
	Relevance	3.4
	Viability	4

This programme has been re-moulded during the review period, to reflect the retirement of Van der Wusten and Faludi. The current overall focus is on institutional conditions and spatial development, underpinned by an overarching conceptual orientation to institutional analysis and an empirical emphasis on the metropolitan region. This holds together four sub-themes of research and provides a platform from which other researchers in the University have become involved (notably Hajer, from political science). The researchwork carried out under the leadership of Faludi and Van der Wusten was of high quality. After a period of re-organisation and re-focusing within an institutionalist framework, the Programme now has great promise. The sub-themes on Spatial and Institutional Developments in Europe continue to flourish, with particular emphases on strategic planning innovation and on the way institutional dynamics shape spatial developments. The City and Urban Planning in an international and historical perspective sub-theme has become particularly interested in space, representation and identity, especially in relation to capital cities. The Environmental Policy theme initiated in 1997 now has a new impetus with two appointments (one a transfer) in 1999, and is exploring water and waste management issues in an institutionalist framework. A fourth theme on economic development will be given momentum when promised appointments in economic geography are in place. The scholars brought together in this Programme are already known internationally and the themes pursued are well positioned in dynamic areas of international research in the planning field.

Scientific productivity has been at a good level, with a rising profile of publication in top quality international journals. PhD performance has been less good, in part due to funding problems in the University. This has in part been compensated for by NWO funds. The current ratio of PhDs to tenured academic staff is high, but the team hopes to re-balance this to a steady flow of around 3 new PhD entrants per year.

The Programme Team has tended to put its emphasis on scientific development, and has been less active in undertaking research contracts from policy and practice clients. Nevertheless, team members make regular comments in the professional press and have undertaken some contract work. There are in addition close links with political, economic and cultural actors in the context of the overall mission of the Amsterdam Centre for the Metropolitan Environment (AME).

After some re-organisation, in the Faculty and in the Programme, this Programme looks set to make a very significant high quality contribution to developing planning research within the context of institutionalist analyses. It combines

effective leadership with a collaborative research environment and commitment to both conceptual and empirical development. There is a good age range of staff, with some younger tenured staff, some at middle level and good senior participation. There appears to be commitment within the Faculty and the University to consolidating and expanding this area of work. Overall, this Programme should return to the high quality international profile held at the start of the review period.

Appendix 1 Discipline Protocol Geographical Sciences November 1999

1. Introduction

This research assessment covers the disciplines of human geography, urban/regional planning and demography. Within these disciplines research is devoted to explaining why people and things are where they are on and move over the surface of the earth. Central is the analyses of processes that bring about the distributions of human activities and the management of land use. Geographical research deals with a comprehensive, integrated understanding of (the management of) the relationship between people and their activities on the one hand and their man-made and natural environment on the other. As a result of the comprehensiveness of the understanding, numerous links to a wide range of social sciences and a limited number of natural sciences exist.

The main aims of the assessment are, in concordance with the Protocol 1998, the improvement of the quality of the individual research programmes and the provision of information for the accountability of the research carried out. Furthermore, the assessment will be placed in the context of the activities of the faculty or the institute in which it is embedded and it also will give an appraisal of the general features of the scientific area covered in this assessment.

2. Delineation

Geographical sciences can be delineated in three fields:

- Processes of urban and rural development in a context of rapid globalisation and their effect on social quality, economic viability and ecological sustainability
- Spatial behaviour of people and enterprises in the context of shifting social, residential and production environments that provide access to resources
- Multilevel governance and land use management in relation to the transformation of institutional structures and territorial identities

These three fields cut across the boundaries of a large variety of subdisciplines within the wider field of geographical sciences, across traditional regional demarcations and across research programmes. Research is done at the level of disciplines, of urgent societal issues, of specific regions or countries, but increasingly also at higher levels of integration of research and of co-operation between researchers.

Expertise in the committee is required in order to cover the various sub-disciplines:

- urban geography
- economic geography
- demography
- urban planning
- regional planning
- development studies

In order to evaluate programmes that belong to smaller subunits not mentioned here, the committee may request an assessment by external experts.

3. Units of assessment; mission statement

The local research programme is the level on which the assessment takes place. The programme should be concisely described, should be coherent and should ideally be the result of work of a group of people that work together on a daily

basis. A programme can be the work of a department within a faculty or institute or a coherent part thereof. A programme can also be defined on the basis of the group's mission in context of the research policy of the faculty or research institute or school. More specific arrangements for programme definitions will be made on the basis of a preliminary list of programmes (see the VSNU letter to the University Boards of 28 May 1999).

A guideline for the formulation of a mission statement can be found in the following description:

a: descriptive elements

- the scope of the research: a factual description of the area covered;
- the nature of the work in terms of fundamental, strategic or applied research;

b: goals and objectives

- the objectives and ambition of the group, the institute or the faculty: the aims, the focus on specific targets; a statement of what is envisaged as the achievements after completion of projects or sub-programmes; the type of products envisaged (scientific or professional articles, patents, (industrial) designs, advisory reports, etc.);

- the audience (or clients) of the research: the academic community, professional audiences, society, (under)graduate students, etc.”.

Ideally, a mission statement should be less than 300 words.

4. Specific aims and elements of this assessment

This assessment considers also the balance between the coherence among the various (sub)disciplines in the geographical sciences and the links with related disciplines like geo-sciences, sociology, economics and policy studies. Since most of the geographical research is organised in accredited Research Schools/Graduate Schools, an element of the assessment should be to evaluate the added value of such Schools to the programmes at hand.

5. Information for the Committee

The assessment will be performed on the basis of a self-evaluation report provided by the research programme directors. Furthermore, the Committee will have meetings with the responsible boards for research management and policy within the university and with programme directors, and if desired by the Committee, other participants in the research programmes (e.g. PhD students (AIOs)). A site visit to research groups in each of the five faculties will be carried out. The assessment will cover the research carried out in the period 1995-1999. The elements of the self-evaluation report are mentioned in appendix 3 of VSNU Protocol 1998. The basic elements are the following.

For the faculty, research institute or school:

- a. The research profile of the managerial structure; focal points; present professorial chairs and the future developments for this; major investment plans, the future developments.
- b. A short description of the research plans (the mission of the faculty, institute or school; its research policy).
- c. Any further material needed for the committee to answer specific questions with regard to the faculty management and research policy.

Per programme:

- a. A list of participants names, a table (see VSNU format) of research input in terms of personnel (fte) and money.
- b. A short programme description (see VSNU format), its place in the structure of the university, the faculty or the research institute(s) or school(s).
- c. The research mission of the programme, future in the light of the recent evaluations and the development of the new structure for the university
- d. For each programme: five key publications (selected by the research group), in triplicate.
- e. A list of the scientific output over the five-year period of assessment, listing the PhD-theses, academic publications (split up in international peer-reviewed, national peer-reviewed and others), professional publications and refereed congress proceedings.
- f. A list of other proofs of scientific productivity (organisation of congresses, editorships, patents, etc.)

Further relevant information for this assessment:

The proposals for (re)accreditation of the Research Schools/Graduate Schools and the evaluation of the KNAW evaluation committee are relevant to judge the contribution to joint-programmed research.

6. Responsibilities

Discipline Committee:

- preparation of the discipline protocol
- proposals for Committee chairperson and members

University/faculty/research institute/school:

- preparation of the information on the managerial unit.

KNAW:

- agree upon Committee chairperson and members

VSNU:

- approval of discipline protocol
- appointment of Committee chairperson and members
- determination of the terms of reference for the Committee
- appointment of the Committee secretariat
- publication of the final report

7. Finances

According to VSNU rules the standard costs of the assessment will be charged to the universities.

Appendix 2 Curricula vitae

Arie Shachar (chairman of the committee) is professor of Urban Geography and Urban Planning at Hebrew University, Israel. He gained his MA in Urban Geography, PhD in Geography at the same university. Leon Safdie Chair in Urban Studies; director of the Institute of Urban and Regional Studies, Hebrew University, Israel.

He was visiting Professor several times at the School of Architecture and Urban Planning of UCLA and co-director of the European Science Foundation Research Programme on Regional and Urban Restructuring in Europe (RU-RE); chairman of the Editorial Board of the Atlas of Israel.

Consultant to various public agencies in Israel and to international organisations (USAID, UNDP, UNCHS).

Main areas of research and teaching: economic globalization and urban development, national spatial planning, metropolitan development and planning, regional inequalities, urban social polarization, comparative national and metropolitan policies.

He was a member of the committee which in 1995 assessed the research of Geographical and Environmental Sciences in The Netherlands.

Chris Hamnett is professor of Human Geography at King's College London. Previously he was professor of Urban Geography at the Open University. He has held a number of visiting international positions including University of British Columbia (1982), a Bancker Research Professorship (George Washington University, Washington DC, 1986), Visiting Research Fellow, Australian National University, 1989; Sir Norman Chester Senior Research Fellow, Nuffield College Oxford, 1993; Visiting Research Fellow, Netherlands Institute of Advanced Studies, Wassenaar, 1994.

He has published widely in the field of urban social geography. His books include *Cities, Housing and Profits* (with Bill Randolph, 1989) Hutchinson; *As Safe as Houses: housing inheritance in Britain* (1991) (with Michael Harmer and Peter Williams); *Housing and Labour Markets* (edited with John Allen, 1991); *A Shrinking World* (edited with John Allen, 1995); *Shrinking the State: A comparative analysis of privatization in the USA, Britain and France* (with Jeffrey Henig and Harvey Feigenbaum, Oxford University Press, 1999; and *Winners and Losers: the home ownership market in Modern Britain*, University College Press, 1999).

In addition Chris Hamnett has published more than 50 articles in referred journals including *Urban Studies*, *Regional Studies*, *Environment and Planning* and more than 20 chapters in edited books. His work on Gentrification, inequality and polarisation and housing market transformation in large cities is well known. In 1985/6 he was the research director of a UK Government committee of inquiry into the maintenance, service and management problems of privately rented blocks of flats in Britain.

Patsy Healey is professor of Town and Country Planning at the University of Newcastle and Director of the Centre for Research in European Urban Environments. She holds degrees in geography (University College London), planning (University of Westminster) and a doctorate in urban and regional planning (London School of Economics). She is a specialist in planning systems and urban development processes, and in planning theory. She has extensive

experience of developing and managing research projects, funded from many sources. She is on the Editorial Board of many of the core planning journals and is currently lead editor of the new journal, *Planning Theory and Practice*. She is a past President of the Association of European Schools of Planning. She has served on Research panels of the UK Economic and Social Sciences, the Research Committee of the Royal Town Planning Institute and on the Planning Research Advisory Group for the UK Department of the Environment. She is currently on the Housing and Neighbourhoods Research Committee of the charitable Joseph Rowntree Foundation and on the UK Higher Education Funding Council's Research Assessment Panel for Planning. She was awarded the honour of OBE for services to planning in 1999.

Ron Lesthaeghe is professor of social science research methods and of demography at the Free University of Brussels (VUB). He holds a PhD in the Social Sciences (1970) from the University of Ghent. His research pertains to various subfields of demography (fertility, household formation, internal migration) covering mostly European and sub-Saharan populations. In addition he has also been involved in ethnic minorities research and in values studies. He has been awarded the Colson Chair at the Institut des Sciences Politiques (Paris), the Leclercq Chair at the Université Catholique de Louvain and the Francqui Chair at the University of Antwerp. He will also take up the Erasmus Chair at Harvard University. He is a member of the Royal Belgian Academy of Arts and Sciences and of the Royal Belgian Academy of Overseas Sciences. He is a foreign member of the Dutch Royal Academy of Sciences (KNAW) since 1999. He was a member of the committee which in 1995 assessed the research of Geographical and Environmental Sciences in The Netherlands.

Eike W. Schamp is professor of economic geography at the Johann Wolfgang Goethe University in Frankfurt/Main. He holds a PhD (Dr.) degree in economics (1971) as well as a habilitation degree in economic geography (1977) from the University of Cologne. His research activities are mainly oriented towards the geography of manufacturing, the industrial development in francophone Africa both in the formal and informal sector, and, recently, in knowledge intensive business services. His main research focus is the firm and its spatial strategies. He has also pursued research on technology and regional development. Since 1995, he is editor in chief of *Geographische Zeitschrift* (Geographical Journal, Germany).

Appendix 3 Programme numbers and corresponding titles

Number	Title	Research director
RUG 01	Firm location, Regional development and Labour market	Pellenbarg
RUG 02	Planning for Environmental Quality	Ashworth & Voogd
RUG 03	Demography	Willekens
KUN	Innovative Spatial Policies in International Context	Ernste
WUR 01	Land Use Planning Inputs	Van Lier/ Van der Valk
WUR 02	Tourism and recreation Transformations	Lengkeek
WUR 03	Rural environment	Kerkstra
WUR 04	GIS and Remote Sensing	Bregt & De Jong
UU 01	Urban Research Center	Dieleman
UU 02	Social-spatial aspects of processes of internationalisation and development in developing countries	Vellinga
UU 03	Explokart: clasification and accessibility of Dutch cartographic documents	Schilder
UvA 01	REDRA The social And Geographical Dynamics of Natural Resource Management and Livelihood Society	Dietz
UvA 02	UDRA Urban Livelihoods and Environment	De Bruijne & Baud
UvA 03	INDRA Gender, Ethnicity and Childhood	Schrijvers
UvA 04	ISTRA The Nationalities Problem in Eastern and Western Europe	Knippenberg
UvA 05	AME Segregation and Time/Spatial Behaviour	Musterd
UvA 06	AME Social Demography and Spatial Mobility	Kuijsten/ Le Clercq
UvA 07	AME Institutional and Spatial Development of City and Region	Salet

Appendix 4 Research input and results

Programme	WP1		WP2		WP3		Total input	PhD theses	Scientific publications*	Professional publications
	Aio	Other	Oio	Other	Aio	Other				
RUG 01 Firm location, Regional development and Im	10.0	9.2	5.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	24.9	9	143	68
RUG 02 Planning for Environmental Quality	20.0	9.4	2.5	0.0	4.2	0.0	36.1	7	185	34
RUG 03 Demography	4.27	5.0	2.8	4.0	16.27	0.27	32.6	7	65	31
Subtotal	34.27	23.6	11.0	4.0	20.47	0.27	93.6	23	393	133
KUN Innovative Spatial Policies in Intern. Context	18.7	23.2	12.9	0.0	1.6	12.1	68.5	14	169	287
WUR 01 Land Use Planning Inputs	6.4	12.1	2.7	0.0	2.1	7.1	30.4	4	131	106
WUR 02 Tourism and recreation Transformations	5.2	9.6	5.8	0.0	0.8	2.4	23.8	3	60	112
WUR 03 Rural environment	0.0	3.1	0.0	0.0	3.2	2.2	8.5	3	22	12
WUR 04 GIS and Remote Sensing	4.0	6.7	0.3	0.0	6.4	9.9	27.3	12	173	36
Subtotal	15.6	31.5	8.8	0.0	12.5	21.6	90.0	22	386	266
UU 01 Urban Research Center	34.9	51.2	14.0	7.0	6.9	6.8	120.8	20	370	288
UU 02 Social-spatial aspects of processes of Int and dev.	11.6	20.1	8.0	1.6	0.8	0.0	44.1	11	154	91
UU 03 Explokart	1.8	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.6	1	45	13
Subtotal	48.3	81.3	22.0	8.6	7.7	6.8	176.5	32	569	392
UvA 01 REDRA	8.6	5.1	7.6	0.0	10.2	3.6	35.1	11	84	66
UvA 02 UDRA	5.2	4.6	10.7	0.0	4.9	4.3	29.7	6	63	53
UvA 03 InDRA	3.3	6.1	3.9	1.5	1.6	0.0	16.4	2	89	53
UvA 04 ISTRa	8.0	10.6	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	19.6	5	77	27
UvA 05 AME Segregation and Time/Spatial Behaviour	23.9	14.5	12.8	0.0	1.6	3.7	56.5	10	140	131

Programme	WP1		WP2		WP3		Total input	PhD theses	Scientific publications*	Professional publications
	Aio	Other	Oio	Other	Aio	Other				
UvA 06 AME Social Demography and Spatial Mobility	18.5	5.6	11.6	0.0	0.0	2.7	38.4	8	79	68
UvA 07 AME Inst. & Spatial Development of City and R.	19.6	14.4	12.8	5.0	0.0	0.0	51.8	6	142	207
Subtotal	87.1	60.9	59.4	7.5	18.3	14.3	247.5	48	674	605

* PhD-theses included

Appendix 5 Assessments per programme

Programme	Quality	Productivity	Relevance	Viability
RUG-01 Firm Location	3	2.8	3.3	3
RUG-02 Planning	4	3.7	3	4
RUG-03 Demography	4.5	3.7	5	4.5
KUN Innovative Spatial Policies	4	3	4	4.4
WUR-01 Land Use Planning Inputs	2.7	2.5	3.3	3
WUR-02 Tourism	2.5	2	2.5	1.6
WUR-03 Rural Environment	2.5	1.7	1.9	1.5
WUR-04 GIS and Remote Sensing	4.5	4	4.5	5
UU-01 Urban Research Centre URU	4.5	4.2	4.4	4.9
UU-02 Internationalisation IDSUU	4	3.3	3.4	3.5
UU-03 Explokart	4	5	4.5	3
UvA-01 REDRA	3.6	3.1	3.7	3.5
UvA-02 UDRA	3.2	3.5	3.8	2.6
UvA-03 InDRA	3.5	3.4	3.4	2.9
UvA-04 ISTR	3.5	3	3.6	3.2
UvA-05 Segregation	3.1	3.5	3.1	3.3
UvA-06 Demography	-	-	-	-
UvA-07 Inst & Spat Development of City and Region	4	4	3.4	4

Appendix 6 Preliminary Assessment Form

Review Committee Geographical Sciences

(Please return to the Secretary of the Review Committee before)

Title programme:

Code:

First Reviewer:

Filled in by:

Second Reviewer:

1. Ratings

(Please give your ratings on a 5-point scale, in which: 5 = excellent; 4 = good; 3 = standard; 2 = below standard; 1 = poor.

Note: Start from the assumption that all University research should normally conform to a certain standard. Consider whether each aspect of this programme is above/on/below this standard. The committee report must specify why deviation of the standard is perceived. Your preliminary assessment is only for use in the committee meetings and will not be published in the committee report.)

	1	2	3	4	5	
QUALITY						
How do you evaluate the quality with respect to the:						
1. originality of the approach and ideas						
2. significance of its contribution to the field						
3. coherence of the programme						
4. publication strategy in view of the stated mission						
5. prominence of the programme director						
6. prominence of other members of the research group						
7. distribution of published output over the team members						
8. scientific publications (scientific impact)						
9. professional publications						
10. design and software						
Overall assessment of quality level						
PRODUCTIVITY						
Considering number of staff, how do you evaluate the productivity of the programme with respect to the:						
1. number of PhD theses						
2. number of scientific publications						
3. number of professional publications						

	1	2	3	4	5	
Overall assessment of productivity						
RELEVANCE						
Considering the stated mission of this programme, how do you evaluate the relevance of the research with respect to:						
1. the advancement of knowledge						
2. the dissemination of knowledge						
3. the implementation of knowledge						
Overall assessment of relevance						
LONG-TERM VIABILITY						
Considering the present status and future developments (if known) of staff and facilities, how do you evaluate the long-term viability of the programme:						
1. in view of the past scientific performance						
2. in view of future plans and ideas						
3. in view of staff age and mobility						
Overall assessment of long-term viability						

2. Draft review

(suggested subjects:

- Short *description* on the research subject, mission, strategy and recent results
- Development and *progress* of the programme/group in the given period
- Appraisal of *publication strategy* and productivity
- Appraisal of the *international position* and reputation
- (international) *co-operation*
- *funding* strategies and results
- *relevance* for users, professionals, society
- potential for the *future*)

3. Questions

(to the Programme Director and/or the Faculty Board)

Appendix 7 List of Abbreviations

AGIDS	Amsterdam Research Institute for Global Issues and Development Studies
AIO	PhD-student (Assistent in Opleiding)
AME	Amsterdam Study Centre for the Metropolitan Environment
CERES	Centre for Resource Studies for Development
fte	full time equivalent
HEDRA	Health and Development Research Associates
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IDSUU	Institute for Development Studies Utrecht University
INDRA	International Development Research Associates
ISTRA	Identity, State and territoriality Research Associates
KNAW	Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences
KUN	Katholieke Universiteit Nijmegen
LDC	Lower developed countries
NLG	Dutch guilder
NWO	Netherlands Research Council
OIO	NWO research assistant (Onderzoeker in Opleiding)
REDRA	Resources, Environment and Development Research Associates
RUG	Rijksuniversiteit Groningen
TNO	Netherlands Organization for Applied Scientific Research
UDRA	Urban Development Research Associates
UN	United Nations
URU	Urban Research Centre Utrecht
UU	Universiteit van Utrecht
UvA	Universiteit van Amsterdam
VSNU	Association of Universities in the Netherlands
WIMEK	Wageningen Institute for Environment and Climate Research
WP	wetenschappelijk personeel
WUR	Wageningen University and Research Centre

