



## Family literacy: A view on the Netherlands

Roel van Steensel  
Erasmus University Rotterdam



## Who is Partner 67?



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Kenniswerkplaats (KWP)  
Rotterdams Talent  
*Knowledge Platform*  
*Talent in Rotterdam*



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Professional Learning Community



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- Municipality of Rotterdam
- CED Group (educational development)
- Various schools/school boards

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Exchanging knowledge

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Professional Learning Community

Exchanging knowledge

Applying knowledge





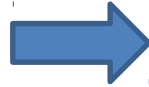
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Policy making

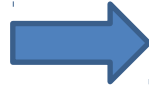


Municipality



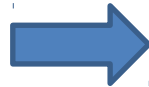
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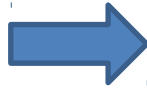


CED Group



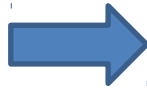
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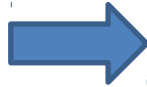
Municipality

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CED Group

Implementation

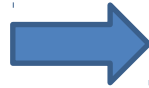


Schools/school boards



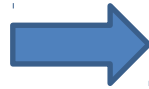
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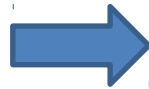
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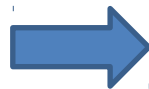
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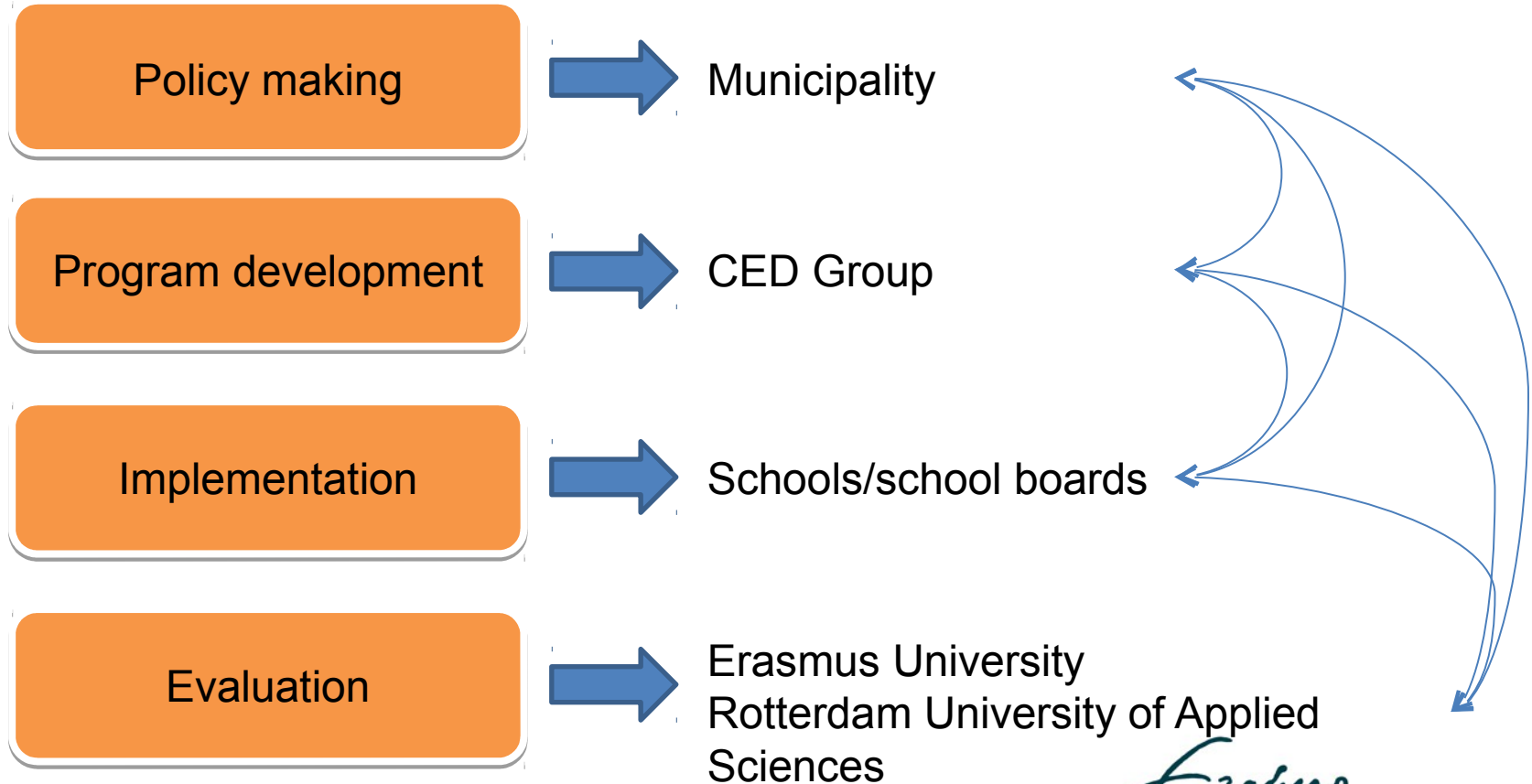
Evaluation



Erasmus University  
Rotterdam University of Applied  
Sciences



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# A view on the Netherlands



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- Focus on early education:
  - Preschool phase (2-4 years).
  - Kindergarten phase (4-6 years).



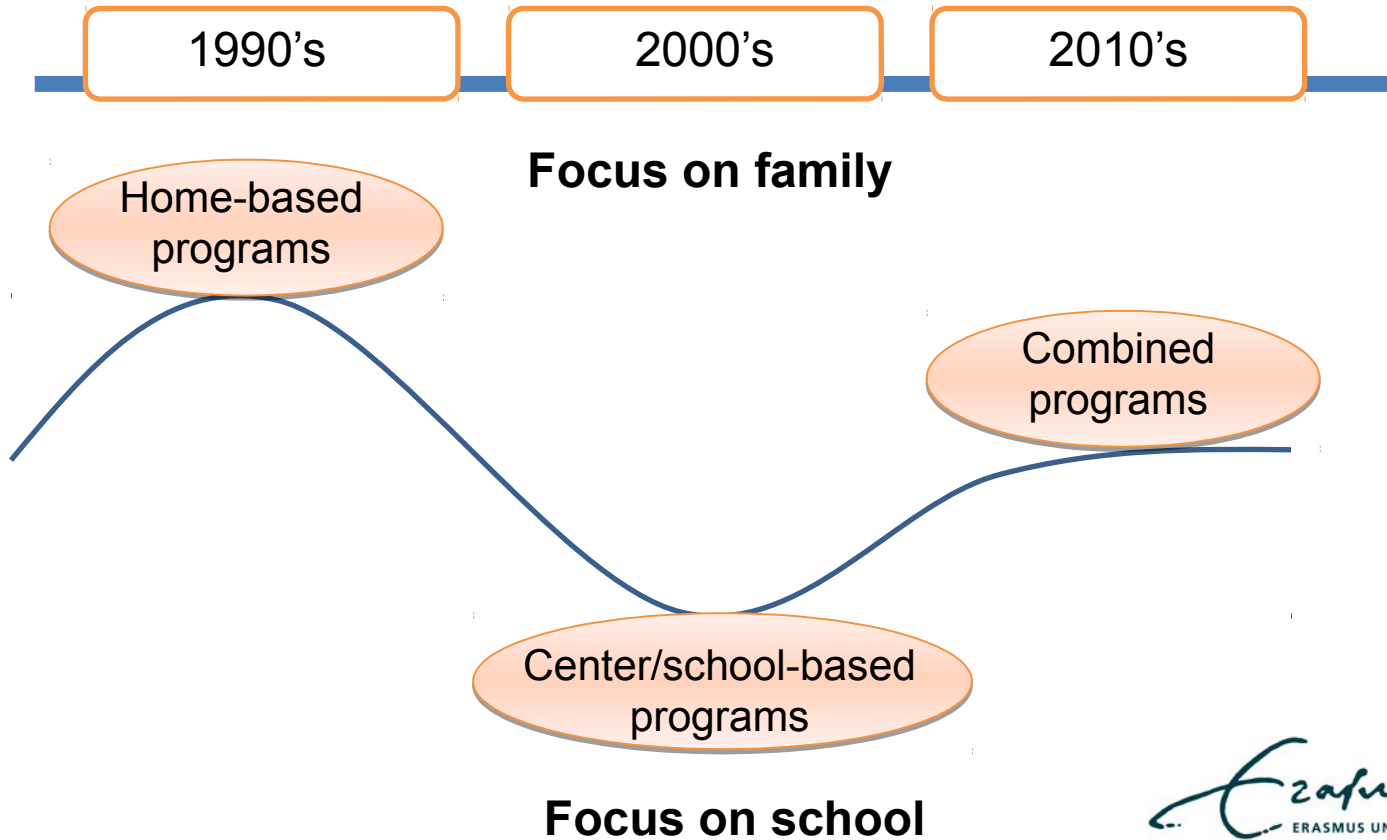
## A view on the Netherlands

- Focus on early education:
  - Preschool phase (2-4 years).
  - Kindergarten phase (4-6 years).
- Focus on at-risk children from:
  - Low SES families.
  - Immigrant minority backgrounds:
    - Traditionally: Turkey, Morocco, Surinam, Netherlands Antilles.
    - Recently: Eastern Europe.





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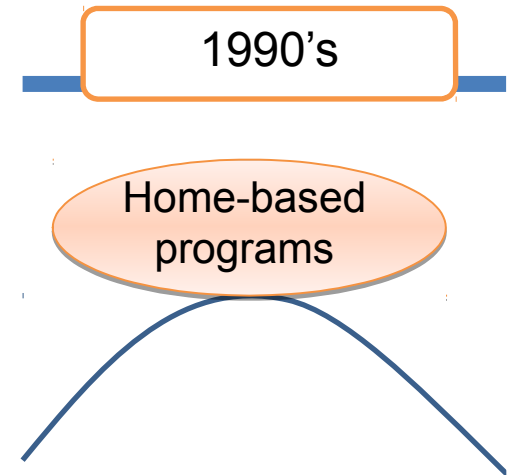




## A view on the Netherlands

### “Step”-programs:

- Ages: 1-2, 2-4, 4-6, 6-7.
- Based on HIPPY (Lombard, 1994).
- Mostly implemented by welfare organizations.
- Financed from municipal means (Educational Disadvantages Policy).
- Some evidence of positive effects.





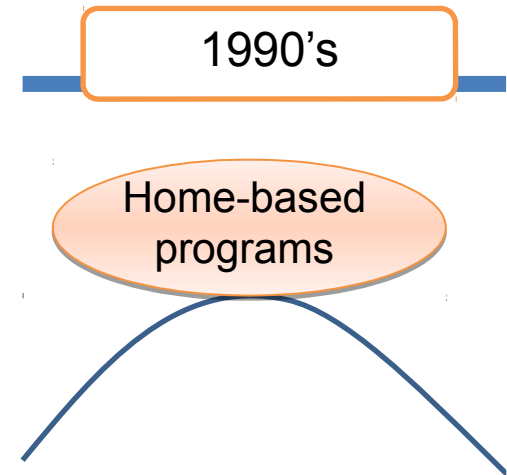
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### Other programs:

- Boekenpret (“Book fun”).
- Voorleesexpress (“Shared reading express”).
- Some evidence of positive effects.





## A view on the Netherlands

### Center/school-based programs

- Ages: 2-4, 4-6.
- Implemented by preschools and schools (kindergartens).
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- Mixed effects.

2000's

Center/school-based programs



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### Family literacy/parent involvement

- Parent components in center/school-based programs.
- Low intensity.

2000's

Center/school-based programs



## A view on the Netherlands

### Combined programs

- Alignment of (pre)school and family activities.
- Implemented by schools and welfare organizations.
- Financed from municipal and national means (school budgets).
- Effect studies in progress.

2010's

Combined programs



## A view on the Netherlands

Combined program: example



“Early education at home”

# A view on the Netherlands







# A view on the Netherlands



Educational partnership



# A view on the Netherlands



Taal voor Thuis  
"Language for at home"



# A view on the Netherlands



## Family literacy/parent involvement in the Netherlands



Educational partnership





## A view on the Netherlands

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Wasik & Van Horn (2012) – 3 key elements:

1. Providing parents with experiences to enhance their children's literacy skills.
2. Providing early childhood education.
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Funding  
- For research.  
- For project development.





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*2011-2014 Higher Achievements Program*

- Funding for school improvement
- Criterion = plans for increasing parent involvement



## KWP: Possible contributions

**Research**

**ELINET**



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  - Implementation of FLP.

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- Benchmarks for FLP effects.
- Pitfalls of FLP.



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- Good practice examples.





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- Pitfalls of FLP.

- Good practice examples.

- Guidelines for effective implementation.