

## Besluit

### Besluit strekkende tot het verlenen van accreditatie aan de opleiding wo-master Milieu-Maatschappijwetenschappen van de Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen

#### Gegevens

<b>datum</b>	Naam instelling	:	Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen
31 juli 2014	Naam opleiding	:	wo-master Milieu-Maatschappijwetenschappen (60 ECTS)
<b>onderwerp</b>	Datum aanvraag	:	22 oktober 2013
Besluit accreditatie	Variant opleiding	:	voltijd
wo-master Milieu	Afstudeerrichtingen	:	Milieu-Maatschappijwetenschappen
Maatschappijwetenschappen			European Spatial and Environmental Planning
van de Radboud Universiteit			Planet Europe
Nijmegen (002119)	Locatie opleiding	:	Nijmegen
<b>uw kenmerk</b>	Datum goedkeuren		
mso/rg13U.014051	panel	:	7 mei 2013
<b>ons kenmerk</b>	Datum locatiebezoeken	:	28 en 29 mei 2013
NVAO/20142670/SL	Datum visitatierapport	:	8 oktober 2013
<b>bijlagen</b>			
3	Instellingstoets kwaliteitszorg	:	ja, positief besluit van 21 november 2011

#### Aanvullende informatie

De NVAO heeft bij e-mail van 25 april 2014 de instelling aanvullende informatie gevraagd over enkele kwantitatieve gegevens. Bij e-mail van 7 mei 2014 heeft de NVAO de aanvullende informatie ontvangen.

De NVAO heeft bij e-mail van 13 mei 2014 de instelling aanvullende informatie gevraagd over het aantal afstudeerrichtingen. Bij e-mail van 19 mei 2014 heeft de NVAO de aanvullende informatie ontvangen. De NVAO heeft de aanvullende informatie in haar oordeelsvorming betrokken.

#### Beoordelingskader

Beoordelingskader voor de beperkte opleidingsbeoordeling van de NVAO (Stcrt. 2010, nr 21523).

#### Bevindingen

De NVAO stelt vast dat in het visitatierapport en de aanvullende informatie deugdelijk en kenbaar is gemotiveerd op welke gronden het panel de kwaliteit van de opleiding voldoende heeft bevonden.

Samenvatting bevindingen en overwegingen van het panel (hierna ook the committee)..

#### **Standard 1: Intended learning outcomes**

The SPSE programme regards environmental issues as complex social and political issues as they have societal causes, provoke societal effects, and ask for societal and political responses.

Its main goal is to enable students to play their role as academic professionals in the analysis and management of environmental governance phenomena.

The committee appreciates the clear socially and politically orientated profile and branding of the programme, which is a strength. It is convinced that the programme meets a particular

need for graduates that can approach environmental sciences from a social scientific background. The committee established that the programme is research-driven. It concludes that the programme has a relevant and broad set of learning outcomes that conforms to the demands for a programme at the academic master's level and is well aligned with the Dutch-Flemish referential framework.

The committee has the impression that the intended learning outcomes are clearly related to the requirements of the professional field of an academic researcher. They however do not seem to fully address the skills required for other professions for which an academic degree is a requirement or at least a benefit, such as social entrepreneur or consultant.

#### **Standard 2: Teaching-learning environment**

The programme has a study load of 60 ECs and takes one year full-time. It consists of six courses of 6 ECs each and a 24 EC master's thesis period. Until 2012 the master's programme had two specializations: a mostly Dutch-language specialization (Milieumaatschappijwetenschappen, MMW) and an English- language specialization that focuses on the European aspects of spatial and environmental policy (European Spatial and Environmental Planning, ESEP). In September 2012, a third specialization was launched, Planet Europe, that builds on the objectives of ESEP. It is a full-time, 2-year (120 ECs) Erasmus Mundus programme offered in collaboration with Cardiff University (UK) and Blekinge Institute of Technology (Sweden). In the near future the ESEP specialization might merge totally with Planet Europe, and the ESEP specialization itself will disappear.

The committee studied the different components of the programme and is of the opinion that the critical reflection provides an adequate and convincing representation of the relation between the intended learning outcomes and the components of the curriculum.

The committee concludes that on paper the intended learning outcomes refer to both academic skills and practical skills. As mentioned before (standard 1) it gained the impression that in daily practice the programme primarily trains students to become academic researchers. It understands the programme's choice to focus on academic skills but advises it to shift the balance slightly towards the training of action-orientated skills so students will be better equipped for all kind of academic professions in the field including 'social change agents' or 'social entrepreneurs'.

The programme offers teaching and learning methods in which students have the opportunity to learn alongside staff members through close contact with them and their research practice.

The committee appreciates this didactic principle and believes that it is fitting to gradually turn from a teacher-student interaction into an interaction between professional peers (senior and junior). It was impressed by the enthusiasm, involvement and quality of the

Pagina 3 van 7 teaching staff. The committee considers the low number of students a potential risk for the existence of the programme. It was reassured that the programme may expect a further increase in student numbers due to a stronger focus on environmental issues during the bachelor's programme Geography Planning and Environment (GPE) and the implementation of the new two-year specialization 'Planet Europe'. The committee applauds the development of the programme in the international specializations ESEP and Planet Europe, but advises the programme to develop its strategy further and look for new possibilities for funding in the European context.

### **Standard 3: Assessment and achieved learning outcomes**

The committee established that the Board of Examiners is in control and familiar with the programmes it is responsible for. The committee appreciates the initiatives taken by the Board of the University to formalise the process of assessment methods and the archiving of all relevant data sets on which the master's thesis research is based.

The committee read and assessed a selection of 15 theses and established that their level and the quality are at least satisfactory. It noted that some theses had a weak problem definition, and sometimes the referencing was assessed as quite limited. It agreed with the grades given by the supervisors who assessed the latter theses with a lower but still passing grade. The committee is impressed by how the programme developed a standard rubric for assessing the theses but thinks that students should be better informed about how they will be assessed in their individual case. Also, it thinks that the assessment form overemphasises the elaboration of the theoretical framework at the expense of the students' creativity and empirical work. The committee established that some theses contained good empirical research, and it was impressed by the originality of some of them. It would even have awarded some theses a slightly higher grade than given by the supervisor.

Although the committee is of the opinion that the programme focuses primarily on training academic researchers, it established that most graduates are able to find different kinds of appropriate jobs in their discipline.

De NVAO onderschrijft de aanbevelingen van het panel.

**Besluit**

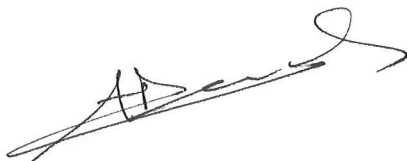
Ingevolge het bepaalde in artikel 5a.10, tweede lid, van de WHW heeft de NVAO het college van bestuur van de Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen te Nijmegen in de gelegenheid gesteld zijn zienswijze op het voornemen tot besluit van 10 juni 2014 naar voren te brengen. Bij e-mail van 9 juli 2014 heeft de instelling gereageerd op het voornemen tot besluit. Dit heeft geleid tot een tekstuele aanpassing in het besluit.

De NVAO besluit accreditatie te verlenen aan de wo-master Milieu-  
Maatschappijwetenschappen (60 ECTS; variant: voltijd; locatie: Nijmegen) van de Radboud  
Universiteit Nijmegen te Nijmegen. De opleiding kent de volgende afstudeerrichtingen:  
Milieu-Maatschappijwetenschappen; European Spatial and Environmental Planning; Planet  
Europe. De NVAO beoordeelt de kwaliteit van de opleiding als voldoende.

Dit besluit treedt in werking op 31 juli 2014 en is van kracht tot en met 30 juli 2020.

Den Haag, 31 juli 2014

De NVAO  
Voor deze:



Ann Demeulemeester  
(vicevoorzitter)

Tegen dit besluit kan op grond van het bepaalde in de Algemene wet bestuursrecht door een belanghebbende bezwaar worden gemaakt bij de NVAO. De termijn voor het indienen van bezwaar bedraagt zes weken.

<b>Standaard</b>	<b>Omschrijving</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b>1. Beoogde eindkwalificaties</b>	De beoogde eindkwalificaties van de opleiding zijn wat betreft inhoud, niveau en oriëntatie geconcretiseerd en voldoen aan internationale eisen	<b>Voldoende</b>
<b>2. Onderwijsleeromgeving</b>	Het programma, het personeel en de opleidings specifieke voorzieningen maken het voor de instromende studenten mogelijk de beoogde eindkwalificaties te realiseren	<b>Voldoende</b>
<b>3. Toetsing en gerealiseerde eindkwalificaties</b>	De opleiding beschikt over een adequaat systeem van toetsing en toont aan dat de beoogde eindkwalificaties worden gerealiseerd	<b>Voldoende</b>
<b>Eindoordeel</b>		<b>Voldoende</b>

De standaarden krijgen het oordeel onvoldoende, voldoende, goed of excellent.

Het eindoordeel over de opleiding als geheel wordt op dezelfde schaal gegeven.

**Tabel 1: Rendement.**

<b>Cohort</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
<b>Rendement</b>	57%	80%	78%

**Tabel 2: Docentkwaliteit.**

<b>Graad</b>	<b>Ma</b>	<b>PhD</b>	<b>BKO</b>
<b>Percentage</b>	25%	75%	75%

**Tabel 3: Student-docentratio.**

<b>Ratio</b>	20 tot 30
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**Tabel 4: Contacturen.**

<b>Studiejaar</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Contacturen</b>	8 tot 10	n.v.t.

- Prof. W.A. Hafkamp, chair, professor in Environmental Sciences, Erasmus University Rotterdam;
- Prof. I. Janssens, research professor at the University of Antwerp, research group of Plant and Vegetation Ecology;
- Prof. A. Jamison, professor in Technology, Environment and Society, Aalborg University, Denmark;
- Prof. I. Loots, professor at the Sociology Department and the Institute of Environmental Development (IMDO) at the University of Antwerp;
- K.A. Gosselink BSc, master student of Environmental Sciences at the University of Wageningen.

Het panel werd ondersteund door drs. E. Poort, secretaris (gecertificeerd).