

M. MOHAMMADI, N. MOOR, S. TURNHOUT. **Civic care corporations: A study into the bottom-up citizens' initiatives for integrated care and housing in the Netherlands.** *Gerontechnology* 15(suppl):50s; doi:10.4017/gt.2016.15.s.860.00 **Purpose** The aim of this exploratory paper is to give an overview of the developments in civic care corporations in the Netherlands, and to examine the consequences for the organisation of governance and (housing) policy. Furthermore, the paper will discuss possible spatial interventions and innovations in smart care that can contribute to the functioning of these developing civic care corporations. **Method** Innovations systems theory^{1,2} was used to analyse the factors driving the developments in civic care corporations. According to this theory, three key elements direct the innovation process: technology, actors, and regime. On the basis of an explorative literature review, a framework was developed that demonstrates which factors are decisive in the development of bottom-up initiatives for integrated care and how they interact with each other. **Results & Discussion** The literature review resulted in a framework as demonstrated in *Figure 1*, which identifies the key-factors involved in the development of civic care corporations, and their interconnectedness. These factors are interdependent and together determine the developments in bottom-up initiatives for integrated care. For example, changes in health care policy can have important consequences for health care governance³. Only recently, civic care corporations in the Netherlands have 'the right to challenge'⁴ formal care institutions in performing health care tasks for the municipality. Especially in small villages, where people have to cope with population decline and decreasing (care) facilities, civic care corporations can offer the required support in the domain of health care, organized by the villagers themselves in collaboration with professionals. However, this change in health care governance is only possible because spatial and technological innovations enable care recipients to age in place and receive the necessary care in their own homes. This development highlights the importance of creating living environments that can support ageing-in-place, as there is more need for a specially adapted housing stock. Although it is already well-known that smart care can support the autonomy, health, and social participation of older adults², the technologies involved are not always ready for use⁵. As most literature on civic care corporations is not scientifically oriented, the framework, as presented in *Figure 1*, can be seen as a first attempt to identify the theoretical framework and the relevant variables in examining the success and failure of civic care corporations.

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Keywords: housing, daily living, civic care corporations, integrated care, smart technology

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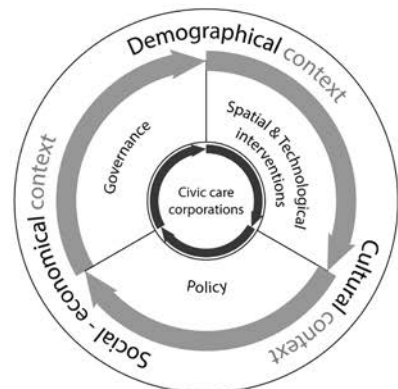


Figure 1. Theoretical framework and the relevant variables in examining the success and failure of civic care corporations