

Blog III: Musa Subeh about his internship

Hi again, it is me the Palestinian talent in the Netherlands. This time I want to share my internship experience from a small but beautiful municipality of Huizen. After a week of theory on what leadership and municipal management is all about at The Hague Academy, the internship gave me an opportunity to compare and critique the theory versus practice.

I really had a nice time in the municipality of Huizen. The people were warm and welcoming and really made me feel comfortable and not as an outsider. I was taken around the town and shown interesting places that hold a sentimental value to the city and its community. What was quite remarkable was the silence in the town, it was very peaceful and quiet.

Of course I was exposed to so many things about local governance this week, but I was really astonished to hear that so many people work part-time at local governments in the Netherlands. But then again in Huizen, they only have a 5% sick rate. This probably also has to do with the training opportunities and possibility for 'flexible working'. Ganna, the Talent from Ukraine who went to visit Over-Gemeenten told me a lot about the 'New Method of Working'. In order for that to work I really believe you need to be able to trust the municipal officers a lot....and then again...perhaps don't trust them too much, since otherwise people might take advantage ;-)

The exposure was amazing and from the bottom of my heart I, and I know my co-talents do too, would like to thank everyone who contributed to this beautiful course. I have concluded that I need to do more with the available resources to bring much more awareness and communication. Innovation and citizen participation are key.

Dreams come true with simple cooperation.

Salam alaykom

On one last note....you Dutch people must really love your animals! I heard from fellow talents Unati and Prince, who went on their internship to the province of Drenthe that local governments here in the Netherlands build bridges especially for frogs....for real! Can anybody explain please?