

O2 – Pilot – participative adaptation solutions in urban public space

I. Cross-border pilot action to co-create & integrate adaptation measures in an urban redevelopment scheme for the Scheldt river bank area in cooperation with responsible stakeholders in the area

Location: Scheldt riverbank area, public space area on Scheldt river bank in Antwerpen city centre consisting of the square Zuiderdokken and the Scheldt quays.

❖ If you want to check out a video about this pilot, click [here](#).

The Gedempte Zuiderdokken together form an elongated square in the south of Antwerp, parallel to the Scheldt bank. It is a beautiful open space that was mainly used as a huge parking lot. That is useful, because parking space is needed in the city. But it is also a missed opportunity. Under the name 'Zuidpark', this zone is becoming a versatile attraction for visitors from the area, the whole of Antwerp and far beyond.

At the end of the 19th century, three docks were dug at this location as an extension of the former port. But over the course of the 20th century, the port's activities moved mainly to the north. In 1969, the Zuiderdokken was closed and a square was created. At both ends there was space for sports and games, but most of the square was used as parking. While the South developed into a cultural, creative and leading district from the 1980s onwards, the Zuiderdokken remained an uninspiring, gray square. Now that is changing.



Figure 1 Inauguration day