



## FLIPPED STUDIO “SUCCESSFUL INNOVATOR” - NOVA

Project No. 2020-1-LT01-KA227-ADU-094751

### Dutch researchers test ways to party during the pandemic - Musical renaissance

**Source(s):** <https://www.dw.com/en/dutch-researchers-test-ways-to-party-during-the-pandemic/a-56953021>

**Creator of the good practice, country:** N/A (Dutch)

**Sector:** Music

**Type of business / employment:** Co-organized by the Dutch government and the country's events sector

#### Achievements in CCS before the Pandemic

Silence has reigned in concert venues and clubs for the past year, but they could soon start to fill back up. The Dutch events sector has teamed up with researchers to make large gatherings safe despite the coronavirus.



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The Back to Live festival was a trial run “packed” in a Good Practice nowadays. Before the Pandemic this Good Practice was implemented in a lovely format and pleasant atmosphere, with good music that gathered fun and joy together. Music was the elixir of optimism before the pandemic and was “delivered” through concerts, festivals, etc. The main achievements of this Good

Practice before the Pandemic were related to beautiful places carefully chosen for concerts as a way to party. This did not involve



additional costs for participants and was generally supported by the Dutch government or other entities responsible for promoting music and culture at local, regional and national levels.

### Challenges faced during the Pandemic and innovative solutions to overcome them

This Good Practice was implemented during the Pandemic 2020-2021 as “ The Back to Live festival” being a trial run. Researchers wanted to find out if and how large-scale events can take place despite the pandemic. More than a thousand people were packed together, dancing to thumping beats and chugging beer. They were not keeping their distance, not wearing masks. It was the way it used to be, before the pandemic. The event took place on Saturday, in the small town of Biddinghuizen in the Netherlands — with government approval.

“In Biddinghuizen, revelers had their temperatures taken at the entrance to the festival grounds and had to show not just a ticket but also a negative PCR test result. They all got a sensor to wear around their necks tracking their movements, and then the fun could begin. Once inside, many



*Free image on Unsplash*

people fell joyfully into each others' arms. Some erupted into cheers; others broke into song. The mood on this Saturday morning in mid-March was euphoric.”- (From the source itself)

The festival was the seventh so-called Fieldlab event, experiments co-organized by the Dutch government and the country's events sector. The aim was to see how concerts, theatre performances, sports events and conferences can be made safe during the pandemic, said program manager Pieter Lubberts.

### Conditions for the innovativeness and success

The innovativeness is that researchers observed the behavior of participants and noted the differences in the group dynamics, then compared the findings with the other events. In Biddinghuizen the festivalgoers had to wear face masks and sensors keeping track of whom they had contact with, for how long and at what distance. "Everybody had a PCR test, a coronavirus test, 48 hours upfront, and only with a negative result you can enter the festival. That was the main measure we had," Lubberts said.



*Free image on Unsplash*

The success of this Good Practice stands in the fact that event participants were tested five days after each event, and the results from the first six events have been encouraging. "Out of more than 6,000 people who attended these events so far, we only found five who might have been infected during or around the time of the events," Voss said.

This Good Practice can be successfully implemented or replicated anytime when an experiment must be done (but in safety conditions). There is a need for singers, participants, and a good reason to test / conduct the research. The conditions are mainly social and environmental (but also institutions if the festivals are organized by city halls or other NGOs etc.). Initiative and human will be what "dictate" this Good Practice.

### Self-reflection questions

1. What did I learn from this Good Practice?
2. What do I have to do to successfully organize and take part in such an experiment?
3. How much do I feel that the contents of this Good Practice were relevant and useful to me?

**This good practice story is prepared by Centrul pentru Promovarea Invatarii Permanente - CPIP, Romania.**