

How we designed an open access and open source publishing workflow for research output of the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences

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Background – University

- Institute for **higher professional education** in the Netherlands.
- Mainly offers **bachelor's** degree programmes, but also has a number of professional **master's** degree programmes.
- Most publications are of a **professional** nature, however, a transition to more **scholarly** natured publications is ongoing.
- Research is conducted by researchers who are part of a **knowledge centre**.

Background – PublishingLab

- Developed a research program to create a platform with new, open source tools for publishers in the **art- and cultural sector**.
- The most important tool that emerged from this project was the **Sausage Machine**.
- Publications and the manuscript are **directly** published in a Git repository.
- **Automatically** applies changes to templates or manuscripts to all relevant files.

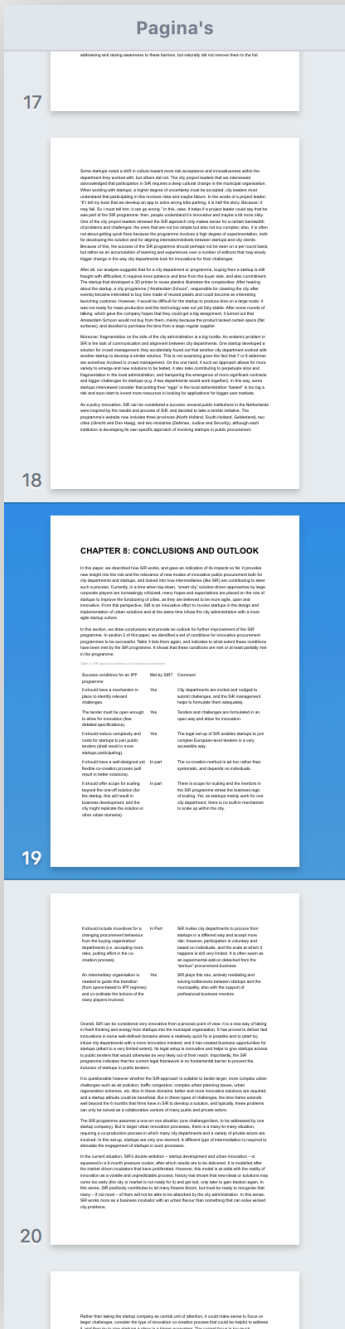
Background – Workflow

- **Standardise** the output of the knowledge centres by making sure that it is in line with the style guide of the university.
- Publish all output with an **open access** license.
- Make it **easier** for researchers to publishing their studies in **different formats**.
- Create an **alternative publishing route** with the library at its centre, instead of an external publisher.

Development

- Discover the **common ground** and **opposing interests**.
- Create space for the wants, needs, and wishes of **stakeholders**.
- Create space for the wants, needs, and wishes of **the library**.
- Build all the necessary assets to rebuild the **Sausage Machine** for **library** purposes.
- Obtain **content** from the knowledge centres.
- **Improve & automatise** more parts of the process.
- Increase the **popularity** of the new publishing route.

Examples – Manuscript



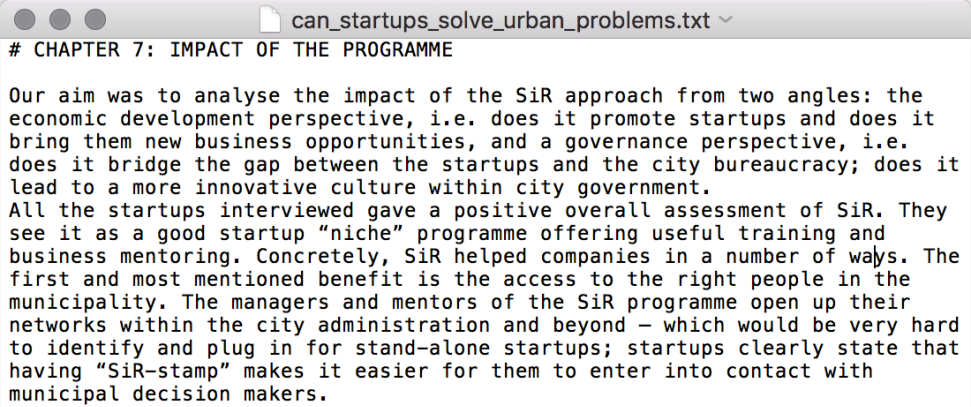
CHAPTER 8: CONCLUSIONS AND OUTLOOK

In this paper, we described how SiR works, and gave an indication of its impacts so far. It provides new insight into the role and the relevance of new modes of innovative public procurement both for city departments and startups, and looked into how intermediaries (like SiR) are contributing to steer such a process. Currently, in a time when top-down, “smart city” solution-driven approaches by large corporate players are increasingly criticised, many hopes and expectations are placed on the role of startups to improve the functioning of cities, as they are believed to be more agile, open and innovative. From this perspective, SiR is an innovative effort to involve startups in the design and implementation of urban solutions and at the same time infuse the city administration with a more agile startup culture.

In this section, we draw conclusions and provide an outlook for further improvement of the SiR programme. In section 2 of this paper, we identified a set of conditions for innovative procurement programmes to be successful. Table 3 lists them again, and indicates to what extent these conditions have been met by the SiR programme. It shows that these conditions are met or at least partially met in the programme.

Table 3: SiR against conditions of innovative procurement

Success conditions for an IPP programme	Met by SiR?	Comment
It should have a mechanism in place to identify relevant challenges.	Yes	City departments are invited and nudged to submit challenges, and the SiR management helps to formulate them adequately.
The tender must be open enough to allow for innovation (few detailed specifications).	Yes	Tenders and challenges are formulated in an open way and allow for innovation.
It should reduce complexity and costs for startups to join public tenders (shall result in more startups participating).	Yes	The legal set-up of SiR enables startups to join complex European-level tenders in a very accessible way.
It should have a well-designed yet flexible co-creation process (will result in better solutions).	In part	The co-creation method is ad hoc rather than systematic, and depends on individuals.
It should offer scope for scaling beyond the one-off solution (for the startup, this will result in business development; and the city might replicate the solution in other urban domains).	In part	There is scope for scaling and the mentors in the SiR programme stress the business logic of scaling. Yet, as startups mainly work for one city department, there is no built-in mechanism to scale up within the city.

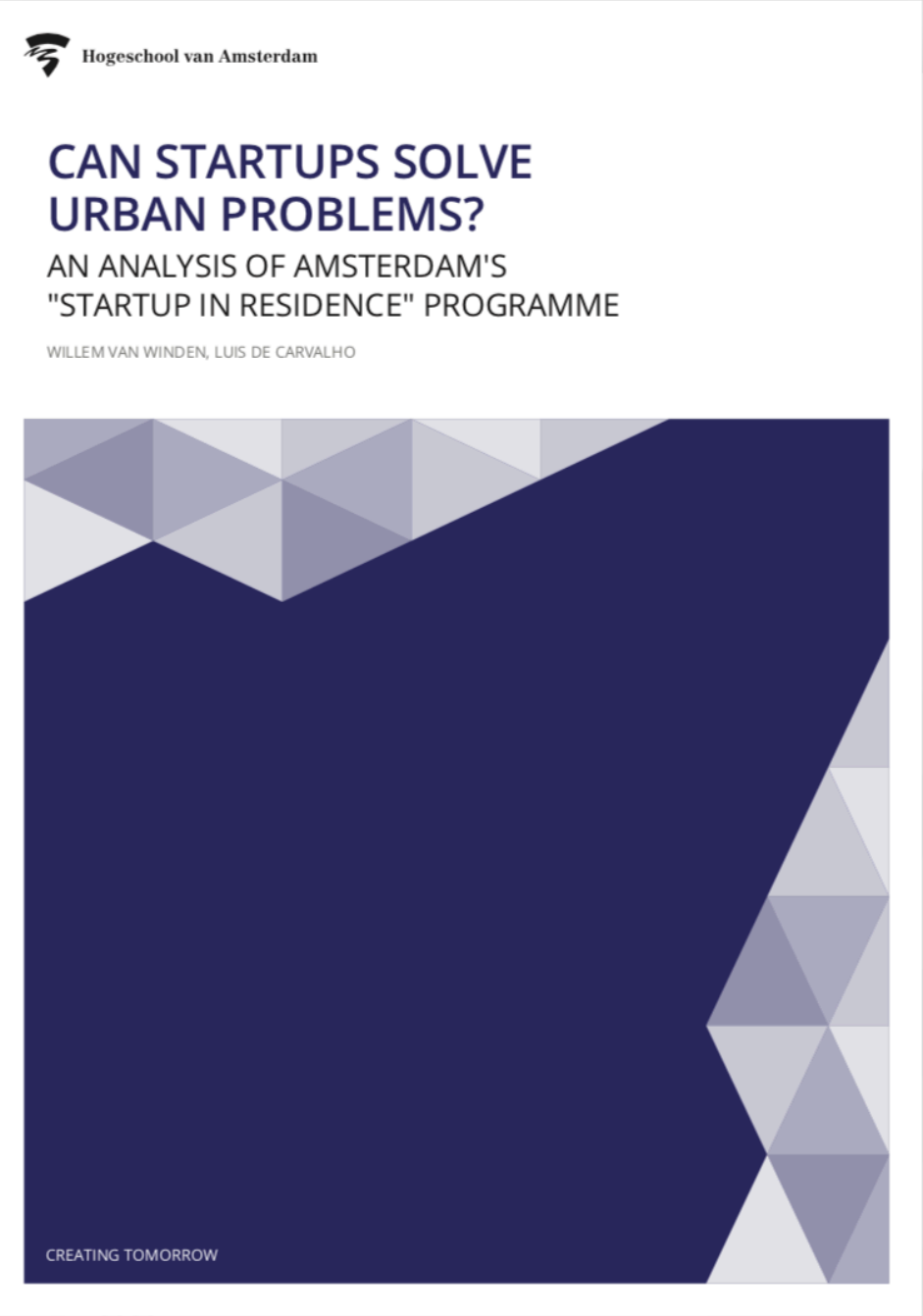


Second, SiR helps startups in their early-stage product development, enabling to set up trials and tests with citizens and/or other users. A case in point is a startup that develops an app through which citizens can notify the waste department when a container is full. The waste department gave them access to 100 people in an urban neighbourhood that were particularly committed to test new waste-related solutions, identified beforehand by the municipality (“waste bin ambassadors”). Another example is the one of the recycling startup, which benefited from seed funding from SiR to develop a specific machine (a special 3D printer) which, besides the prototyping stage with SiR, became important for their business overall.

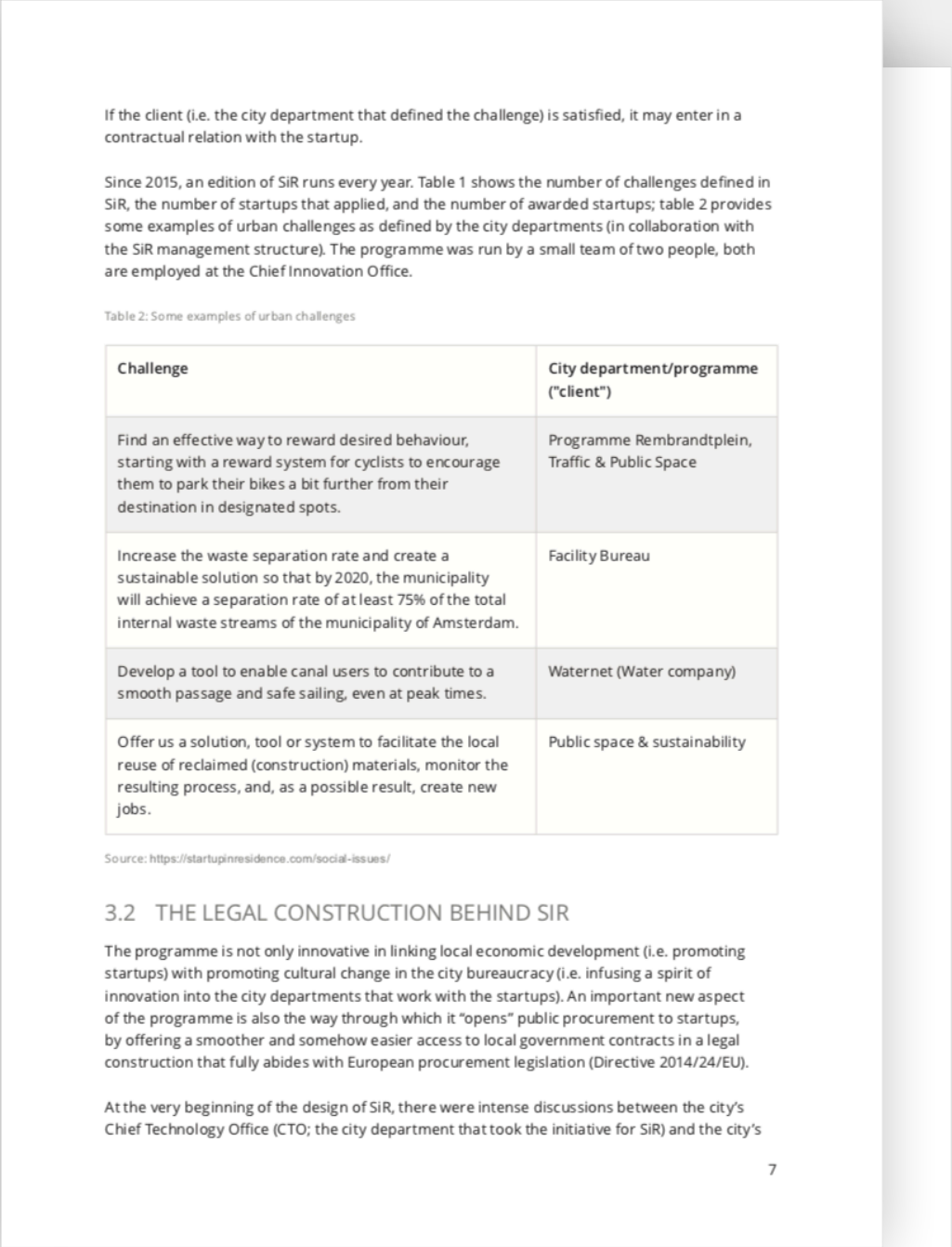
Third, the SiR programme helps to turn public sector challenges (that otherwise would have been tackled in a traditional way by civil servants) into opportunities for startups. It makes it easier for city departments to engage in tenders to engage startups; if SiR would not have been there, many city departments would not have considered to enter a purchasing trajectory (too complex). Thus, to a certain extent, SiR creates a new market, albeit a small one.

Despite these positive aspects, the economic development impact should not be overrated, certainly not in the short-run. Most participating startups did not manage to secure substantial contracts; moreover, so far few startups are in a phase of scaling, in part because the solutions are highly specific to the city context. For the startups, as said, the main direct benefit of the programme has come through access to networks (to be eventually mobilised in the future), and increased understanding of how the local government works. In this sense, it should be interpreted as a training and incubation

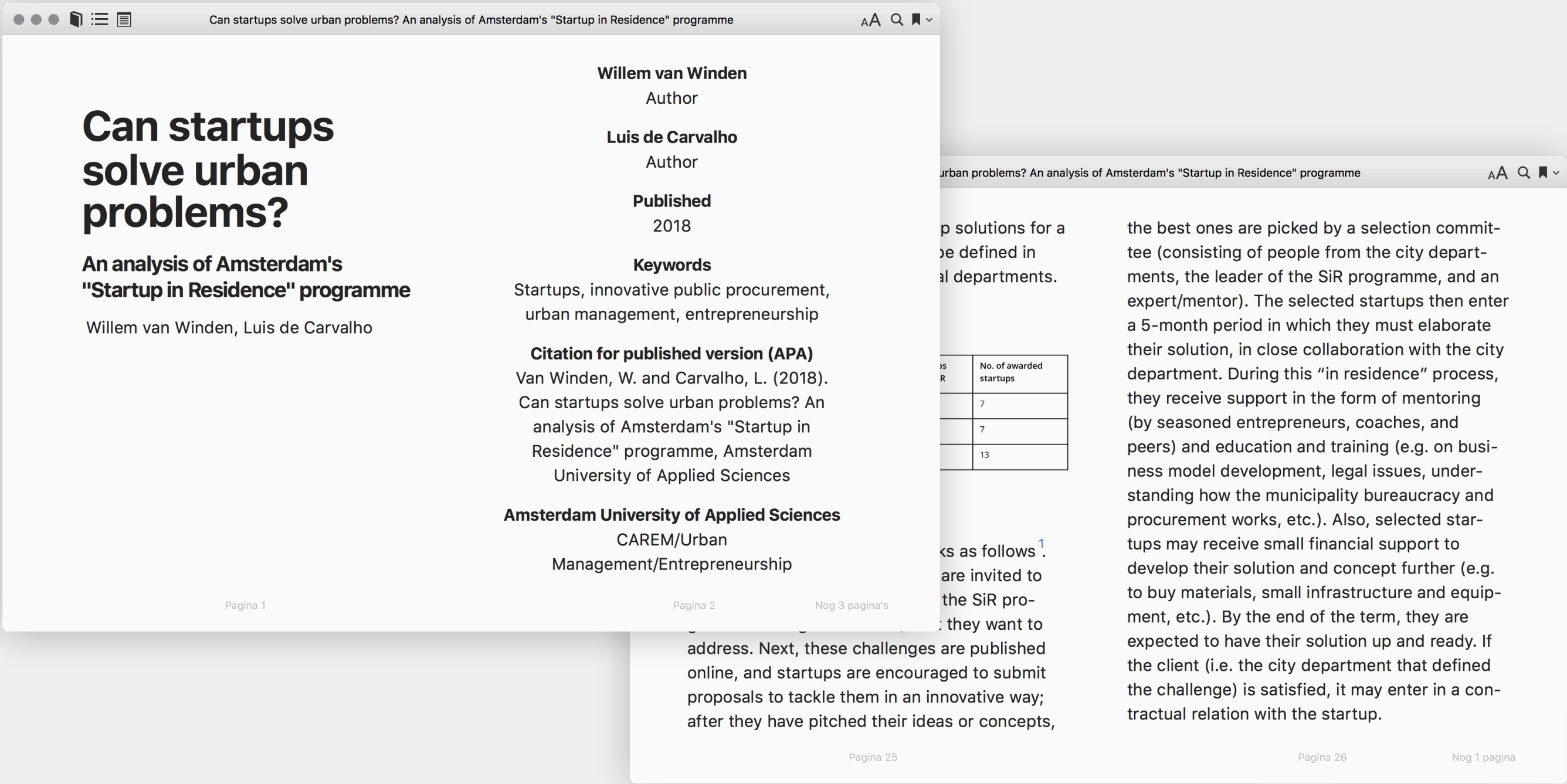
Examples – Pdf



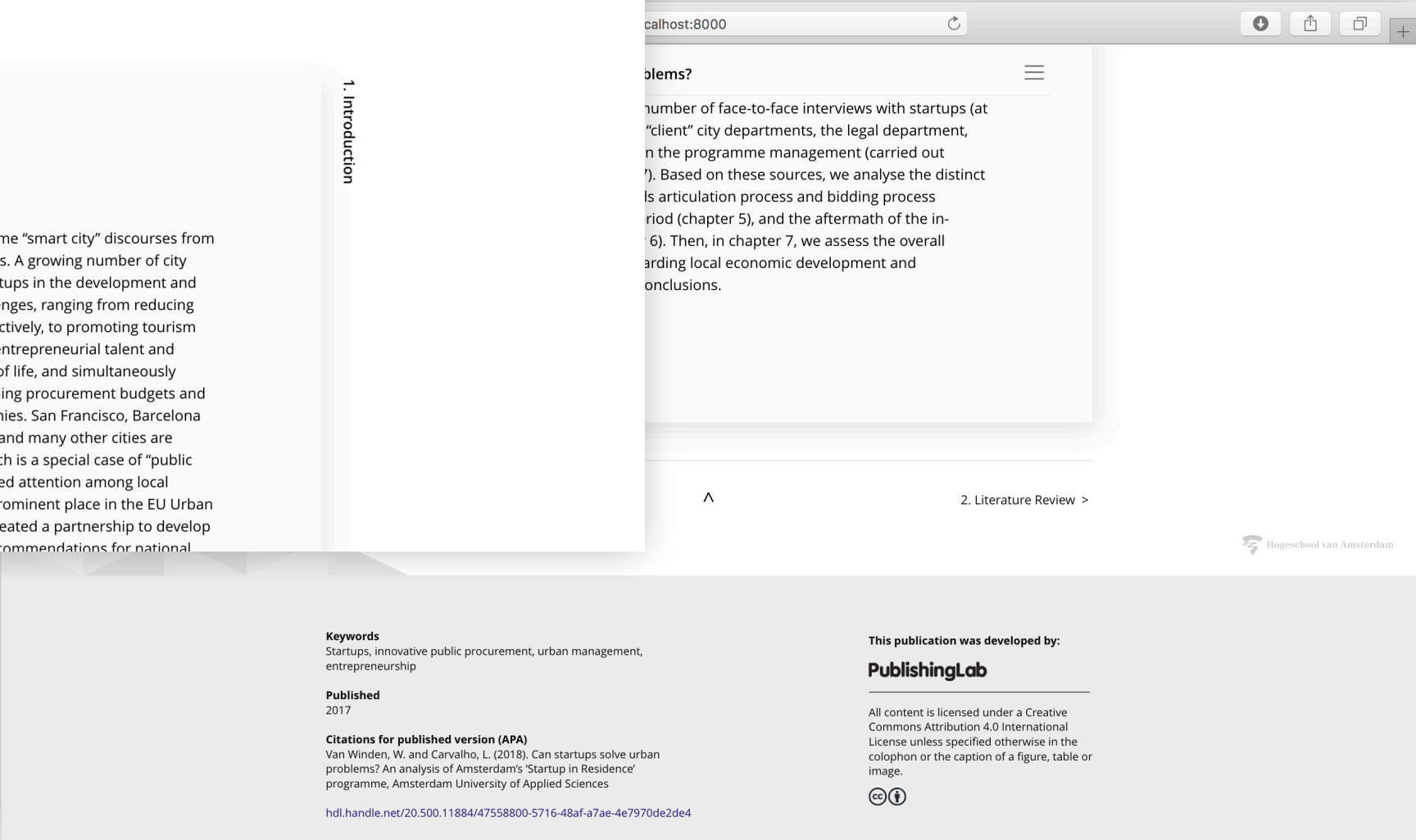
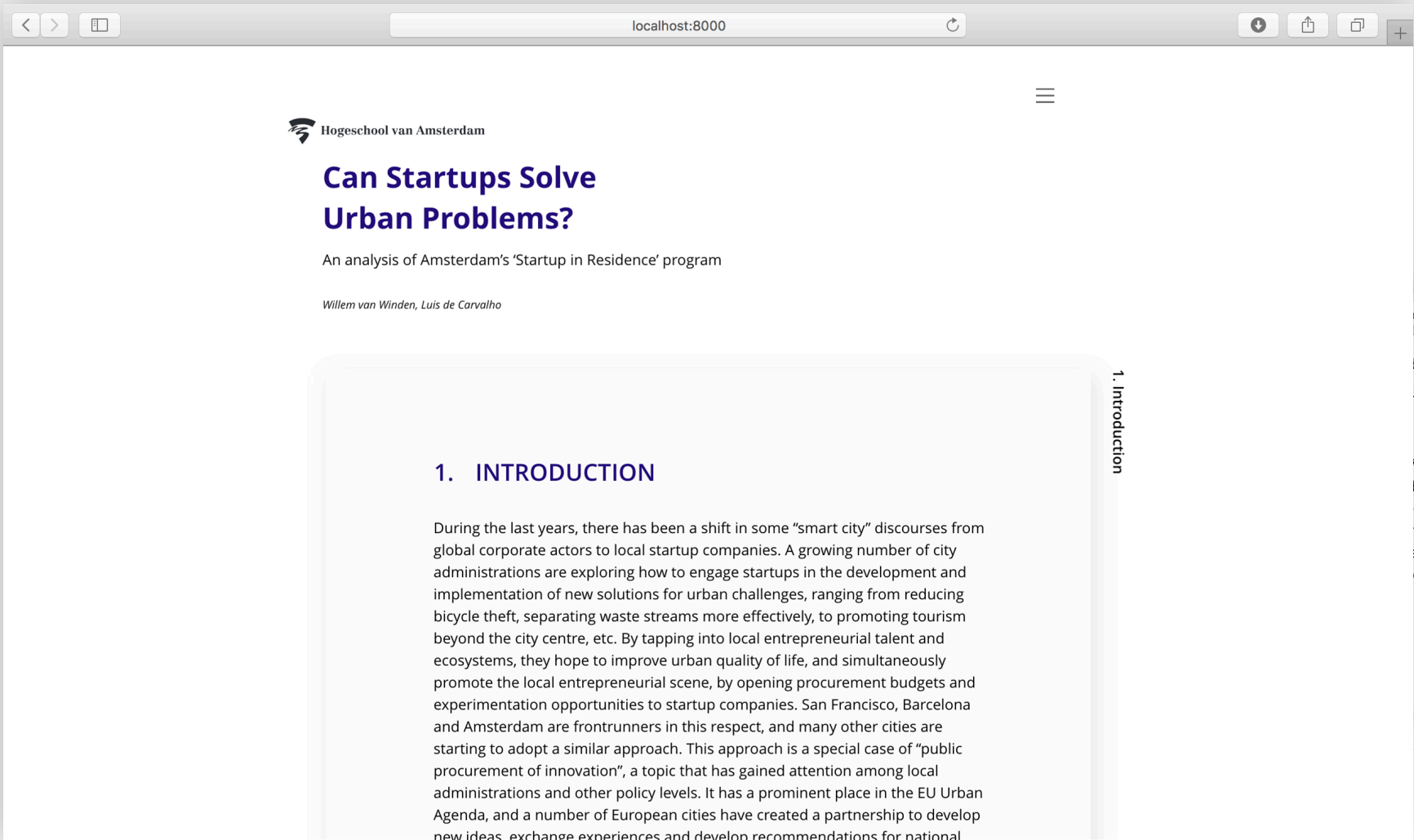
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Examples – ePub



Examples – Web



Workflow

- **Author** — Signs up publication at the library.
- **Author** — Sends manuscript to library.
- **Library** — Gives feedback on manuscript.
- **Author** — Replies to feedback.
- **Library** — Creates a record in the institutional repository.
- **Library** — Converts manuscript to all file formats.
- **Author** — Gives feedback on the files resulting from the conversion.
- **Library** — Replies to feedback.
- **Library** — Deposits manuscript and converted files in the institutional repository.

What we learned

- Not all researchers are aware of or focussed on open access.
- Tools that are being developed within the university for external purposes can sometimes be reframed to improve the university internally as well.
- Developing your own tools allows you to stay on top of how your content is created, and fill up the holes that you come across.
- Use older content to improve your tools during dry spells.
- Collaborating with stakeholders is key. The faster you can show working examples the quicker you increase the popularity of your alternative.

Future perspectives

- Increase the popularity of the publishing workflow.
- Create a platform to highlight the publications created with the publishing workflow.
- Start a partnership with a 'green' printer.
- Make it to the 100% open access milestone of the university.

Thank you

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