Dr Judith Westeneng

Dr Lidewyde Berckmoes

Dr Miranda van Reeuwijk

Dr Stella Neema

Dr Judith Westeneng, Dr Lidewyde Berckmoes, Dr Miranda van Reeuwijk and Dr Stella Neema tell how they dealt with this.

- Government delay in approving the research rules – government officials would only approve the revised manual, which severely delayed the research

- A backlash against sexuality education – in early 2017, the Ministry of Education withdrew their consent for the research to continue, as a result of which the research team had to be reduced by half.

- Limited access to funders – thanks to the flexible support of funders, the project was able to continue.

- Adaptability and flexibility are very important at all stages: in your planning, your research and your project management. It is important to always keep an open mind and be flexible.

- What are your tips for someone facing the same or a similar issue?

- What did you learn from this experience?

- What did you learn about the value of relationships with funders, colleagues and government officials, as collaborators with such parties is particularly important?

- What is your advice to young people who want to pursue careers in research and academia?

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