



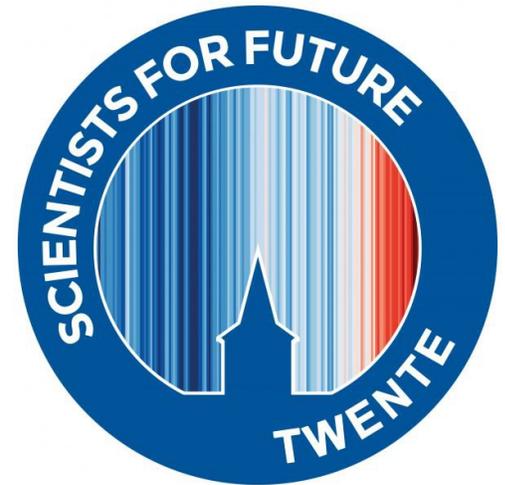
S4F-Twente Newsletter January 2023

Dear supporter of Scientists4Future-Twente,

Welcome to the January-2023 edition of the S4F-Twente Newsletter. We are happy that you are supporting us. Reach out to people that share your concerns: meet us in one of the activities that are described here or forward this Newsletter to others!

Contents of this newsletter:

- What happens at the UT?
- Fireside chats (online)
- S4F-NL webinars
- A book worth reading
- Articles worth reading
- Herenboeren Twente
- Symposium of the HTHT CBL ICR&TIST minor
- S4F-Twente lunch meetings
- Calendar



What happens at the UT?

- **UT scientists speak out:** [UToday](#) on 24 Nov reported that "Although the form varies, more and more UT scientists are speaking out more actively and in a more activist way on climate issues."
- **UT Studium Generale:** You can watch "[The future of our climate](#)", by prof. Maarten van Aalst, Coordinating Lead Author for the IPCC (29 Nov).
- **Climate Crisis Coalition:** this January, the Executive Board invited [Climate Crisis Coalition](#), a collective of UT-related organisations fighting for more climate action. UT on LinkedIn: "Contributing to and accelerating solutions for climate issues is high on UT's agenda. This dialogue is part of a series (...) to engage and talk about the steps forward on this theme."
- **UT Climate Centre:** [UToday](#) on 23 Jan described the plans for a UT Climate Centre. The advice to write up a proposal to join forces at the UT came from the Shaping Expert Group (SEG) Sustainability. Albert van den Berg, Cheryl de Boer and Miriam Luizink wrote down their idea, had the Strategic Council evaluate them and are now preparing a board decision about a climate centre to bring together all UT research and education focusing on climate change. [Text from U-Today, with minor edits]
- **Green Hub Twente:** "Green talks" are hosted. This is a podcast series to voice the opinions of UT researchers. Find the first two episodes here: "[Mobilisation for change](#)" (with Jurriaan Schmitz, EEMCS), related to SDG#13, Climate Action, and "[Energy crisis](#)" (with Nando Tolboom, S&T), related to SDG#7, Affordable and clean energy.
- **Talking sustainability:** Sustainability dialogue (part 1) on Wednesday 8 February, 16:30-18:00 at Ideate, DesignLab (please [register](#) here). "Since sustainability and the climate crisis are evidently important topics for us all, the Executive Board, together with DesignLab, University Innovation Fellows and Green Hub Twente, would like to hear your opinions, ideas and experiences concerning them." Scientists4Future-Twente will also pitch at this dialogue.
- **Campus magazine:** Brechje Marechal, Environment & Sustainability Policy Officer at the UT was [interviewed](#) in the December edition: "We need to allow people at the UT to commit time to sustainability. Because we can't adjust or lower our ambitions, not with the current state of the world. We are a university. If we can't do it, who can?"



- **S4F sustainability lunch walk:** Wednesday, 15 Feb 2023, 12.00-14.00 (start is in front of Spiegel building). The walk will be guided by Brechje Marechal. Please inform [Lena Heinrich](#) if you wish to join.

Fireside chats (online)

About once a month we organise a fireside chat, an informal online meeting of supporters of S4F-Twente. We discuss current topics. You are welcome to join! The next fireside chats are on [22 February](#), about "Behaviour change", introduced by Alexey Voinov, and on [22 March](#), from 20:30-22:00 (online).

In the previous fireside chat of 25 January, we discussed the agenda for the coming months, plans for a symposium with local stakeholders, and the visibility of a group of scientists that proclaims "alternative facts" when it comes to climate change.

In the fireside chat of 23 November, we discussed water management in the Netherlands and the Twente area. Whereas most of the attention is focused on the energy transition, experts on water management Dr. Yijian Zeng and Caroline Bers gave a convincing pitch on the topic, which is highly complex and relevant, especially for the region of Twente. The fireside chat continued as a Q&A for the non-expert participants including input from Alexey Voinov. One aspect that was highlighted is that with rising temperatures, city planners should be very aware of the implications of their choices on the liveability of neighbourhoods. Enschede already suffers from quite extreme temperatures on hot days. All attendants agreed and a follow-up session with a proper tutorial introduction will be organised.

S4F-NL webinars

S4F-NL hosts a series of webinars. You can still watch the S4F-NL [webinars](#) on degrowth and other topics; on 8 December, a panel discussion about "[A degrowth agenda for the Netherlands](#)" was held, as a fourth episode about degrowth (we reported about the first three episodes in our previous newsletters).

On 23 January, the topic was "Putting science communication into action: the Dutch peat covenant." Speaker was Philipp Gramlich (Nederland turfrij); in case you missed it, you can still [watch](#) it. The next webinar is not yet planned, so keep an eye on the S4F-NL website if you're interested.

Four sins of peat extraction

- GHG emissions
- Ground subsidence
- Biodiversity
- Sponge effect

The slide includes a map of the Netherlands showing peat extraction regions (Friesland, Drenthe, Overijssel, Gelderland, Utrecht, Noord-Holland, Zeeland, Noord-Brabant, Limburg, Twente, and The Hague) and a small video inset of Philipp Gramlich.

What could be the next steps for us?

- ✓ **Convenant:** Critical voice in steering committee, publicity work
- ✓ **Link with paid work:** Impact- and outreach workshops [NaturalScience.Careers](#)
- ? **Related industries:** Public awareness around e.g. cut flowers, ornamental plants
- ? **International:** EU-wide movement, bilateral support, covenant as blueprint?
- ? **Legal:** Rights of Nature

The slide includes a small video inset of Philipp Gramlich.

A book worth reading

The book "Embrace chaos" by Dutch professor Jan Rotmans is very interesting. It describes transition processes. Jan Rotmans is professor *Transition and sustainability* at Erasmus University in Rotterdam. The book is very intriguing and gives insights in our changing world. It gives a hopeful perspective. A nice [description](#) of the book is available online.

Articles worth reading

On 17 December 2022, [The Guardian](#) wrote: "Starting next July, Connecticut will become one of the first states in America to mandate climate change studies across its public schools as part of its science curriculum. (...) The requirement follows in the footsteps of New Jersey, which in 2020 became the first state to mandate climate change education. Currently, nearly 90% of public schools across Connecticut include climate change studies in their curriculums. However, by mandating it as part of state law from grades 5 to 12, climate education will effectively become protected from budget cuts and climate-denying political views at a time when education in the US has become a serious culture war battleground."

In [Nature Physics](#), under Comment, we find “The benefits of Noble prizes” (Nov 2022), where authors Vollmer et al. state that “There is an urgent need to rethink the Nobel Prize in Physics in the light of the climate crisis. As expressed by its founder, the award should acknowledge research that addresses pressing challenges for humanity.” Worth the read!

Another article, in [PLOS Climate](#), Sept 2022, with the title “Concerned yet polluting: A survey on French research personnel and climate change”, is also worth reading. “The survey highlights three results: first, an acute awareness of environmental and climate issues widely shared by members of the scientific community; second, a willingness to implement changes; and third, a clear gap between these attitudes and practices that still emit large amounts of greenhouse gases. This raises the question of the role of research institutions, whose support is required to implement profound reforms in the organization of research activities.”



Herenboeren Twente

Since 2015, over a dozen so-called Herenboeren farming cooperations have been established across the Netherlands. These farms aim to operate fully circularly and provide a direct supply of food to the cooperation owners, typically 200 households per farm. One such farm is currently being started just south of Enschede at the Usseler Es. There is still room for several participants but the enrollment goes very fast since December, so be quick if you want to join. The Twente division of Herenboeren aims to set up several more farms, one in the triangle Hengelo-Borne-Delden, one near Almelo, and one north of Enschede. You will find a lot more information [here](#) in Dutch, or [contact](#) them if you would prefer information in English.

Symposium of the HTHT CBL ICR&TIST minor

You are kindly invited to the symposium of the new HTHT CBL minor *Intelligence, Creativity, and Responsible Technological Innovations in Societal Transformations (ICR&TIST)* on Thursday 2 February 13:30 – 17:30 (including drinks) in the DesignLab. Students will share their insights to inspire new ways of thinking and understanding the energy transition. Jennifer Herek chairs the symposium. Programme:

13:30-13:40 Introduction to the symposium

13:40-14:20 Four student presentations of their projects

14:20-14:35 Break and discussions with students

14:35-15:25 Five student presentations of their projects

15:25-15:35 Mieke Boon – Integration of the project; handover to RES (Regional Energy Strategy Twente).

15:35-15:50 Break, and discussions with students

15:50-16:30 Keynote lecture by [prof.dr.ir. Andy van den Dobbelsteen](#) (TUDelft, Climate Design & Sustainability)

16:30-16:35 Closing words by prof.dr. Jennifer Herek (Dean TNW)

16:35-17:30 Drinks

S4F-Twente lunch meetings

Every first Monday and third Friday of the month at 12:30 anyone interested in S4F, staff or student, is welcome to join us for lunch in the Waaier canteen. This is an informal meeting where you can exchange ideas and concerns and meet like-minded people.

During recent meetings, we discussed the "*Herenboeren Twente*" initiative (see earlier in this newsletter for more information), and *sustainability education at the UT*. Feel free to join us in one of the next informal lunch meetings (see Calendar below for dates); you can recognize us by a paper with the [stripes](#) of this newsletter.

Calendar

Date, time	Event	Location
Thursday 2 February 2023, 13:30-17:30	Symposium of HTHT CBL ICR&TIST minor	DesignLab
Monday 6 February 2023, 12:30-13:30	S4F-Twente lunch meeting	Waaier canteen
Wednesday 8 February 2023, 16:30-18:00	Talking sustainability: Sustainability dialogue (part 1)	Ideate, DesignLab (register here).
Wednesday, 15 February 2023, 12.00-14.00	S4F sustainability lunch walk	Start in front of Spiegel building; please inform Lena if you wish to join
Friday 17 February 2023, 12:30-13:30	S4F-Twente lunch meeting	Waaier canteen
Tuesday 21 February 2023, 19:30-21:00	Studium Generale: Vegan food (in Dutch)	Vrijhof - Amphitheater
Wednesday 22 February 2023, 20:30-22:00	Fireside chat, topic "Behaviour change"	online
Wednesday 1 March 2023, 12:45	Colloquium at IMS-S&T by Ton van Ulden (CEO), Sustainable Durable Systems B.V.	Carré, please register
Monday 6 March 2023, 12:30-13:30	S4F-Twente lunch meeting	Waaier canteen
Friday 17 March 2023, 12:30-13:30	S4F-Twente lunch meeting	Waaier canteen
Wednesday 22 March 2023, 20:30-22:00	Fireside chat, topic to be announced	online

Interesting links

- Follow us on [Twitter](#)
- [Scientists4Future-NL](#) and their [Newsletters](#)
- [GreenHub Twente](#) and their [Newsletters](#)

We hope to see you soon, through one of the above opportunities,

the S4F-Twente newsletter team – Leonie Krab, Chris Baeumer, Yuri Engelhardt, Lena Heinrich, Evert Houwman, Gertjan Koster, Theo van der Meer, Nasim Rezaei, Jurriaan Schmitz, Alexey Voinov – twente@scientists4future.nl

Scientists4Future-Twente – Coalition of concerned scientists

