

# S4F-Twente Newsletter

## September 2023

Dear supporter of Scientists4Future-Twente,

Welcome to the September-2023 edition of the S4F-Twente Newsletter.

We are happy that you are supporting us. Reach out to people who share your concerns: meet us in one of the activities that are described here or forward this Newsletter to others!



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## Cycling 4 Climate (15 September)

Cycling 4 Climate during such a beautiful September day! From University of Twente we cycled to *Enschede Energie | om*. We were explained the new *De Elsmoat Solar Park*, where, in addition to renewable energy, biodiversity is also enhanced, including through frog ponds. The cyclists were first inspired by Maurice Beijik at *Reintjeninfra B.V.* We met again for lunch at the *Forelderij*, where Albert van den Berg introduced the new **UT Climate Center**. We then took a tour at *Buursezand* Natuurmonumenten Twente where we could observe the effects of years of drought and nitrogen deposition – thin foliage and dead branches, many dead trees (also due to caterpillars that eat all the leaves of already weak trees). A pool is covered with a layer of loam to retain rainwater for the cows, the usual fens are dry.

Then via a beautiful green route to the Kristalbad water area, where we received an explanation from the *Vechstroom Water Board* about what this board does (guaranteeing water quantity, water quality and safety) and all the functions that the Kristalbad fulfills: water storage and post-purification of purified sewage water – 200 species of birds are spotted here!

Thanks for a fun and informative day everyone! Great that you cycled for the climate. An extra thank you to Cycling 4 Climate Elisabeth van Berckel and Samuel Beltman. It's nice that the initiative could be held in Overijssel. Also for Scientists4Future-Twente and Theo van der Meer for the 90km route, and for the cyclists who came all the way to Enschede from Nieuwegein, Leiden and The Hague to cycle.



## S4F-Twente informal lunch meetings

We have lunch with some interested supporters of Scientists4Future - Twente twice every month. We meet the first Tuesday (so, no longer on Monday!) and the third Friday of each month at 12:30 in the Waaier canteen. We have no agenda for these informal meetings. Come and join to meet with like-minded people, share your plans and ideas and be inspired by the other participants!

We are told that we are sometimes difficult to spot. We are usually seated at a table near the exit of the Waaier canteen. You can recognise us by the warning stripes (either on a banner or on an A4 at our table), so the stripes that we start and end this newsletter with.

## Circular Economy Platform Twente event: Exploring Circular Economy Solutions for a Sustainable Future (12 October)

Any UT staff member or student who is interested in circular economy solutions is invited to join an engaging workshop titled "Exploring Circular Economy Solutions for a Sustainable Future," taking place on 12 October 2023 (11:00-14:00) at the UT Campus. Delve into the principles of circular economy and its pivotal role in addressing sustainability challenges through a carefully crafted agenda.

This interactive event, hosted by the Circular Economy Platform Twente ([CEP Twente](#)), offers participants a platform to identify current circular economy practices, brainstorm priority areas for CEP Twente, and engage in collaborative working groups. Be part of shaping the roadmap towards a sustainable and circular Twente, connecting with like-minded peers and experts while contributing to a transformative journey.

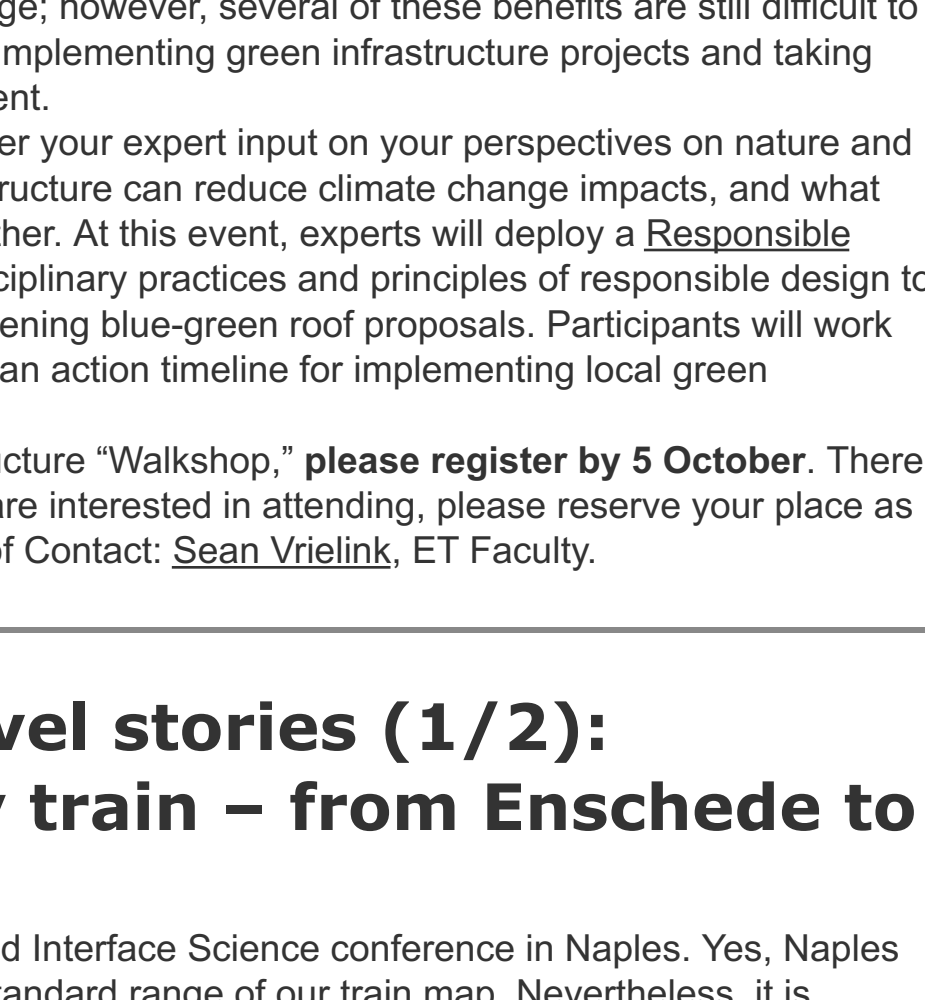
Lunch is included in this event. Venue: Langezijds LA2101 + LA2105.

## Fireside chat on Tuesday 17 October (live!)

We planned our next fire-side chat live, at Frieder's place (please send him an e-mail to register and obtain address details), on Tuesday 17 October at 20:30. We will discuss fossil fuel industry and the university. You are welcome to join!

## Stop subsidising fossil fuels

A wide range of companies and organizations (amongst others: ABP, PME, ASN bank, Triodos bank, FNV, Fasted, Greenchoice; find the long complete list [here](#)) support the [call for the government to stop fossil subsidies](#). The website is in Dutch. You can [sign](#) the letter as well!



## Urban Green Infrastructure "Walkshop" UT (19 October)

On Thursday 19 October from 09:00 to 13:00, blue-green roof experts will gather at the Design Lab of the University of Twente for a collaborative "walkshop" exploring the barriers and solutions to installing and maintaining green infrastructure projects.

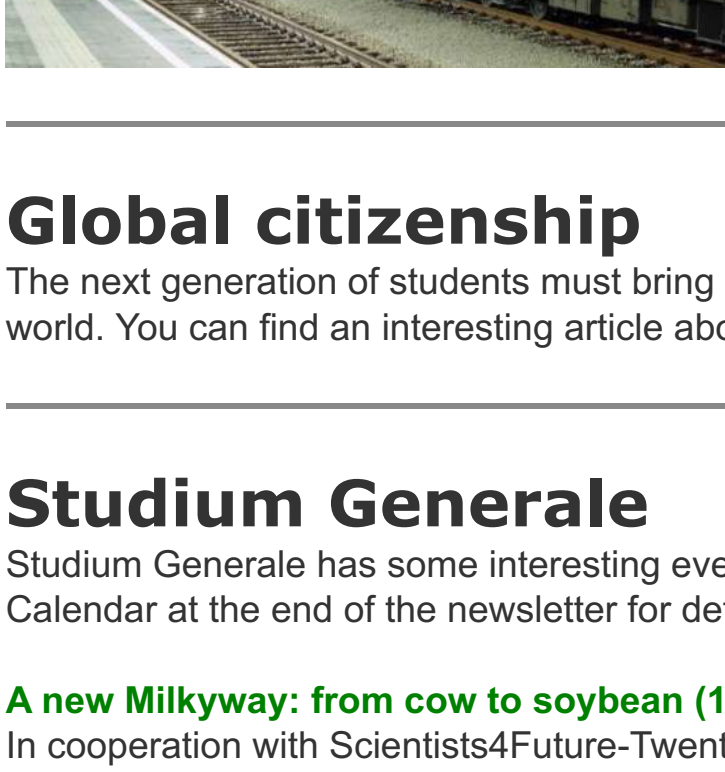
Green infrastructure brings a myriad of benefits, such as helping to reduce the negative impacts of climate change and preventing damage; however, several of these benefits are still difficult to quantify. This uncertainty is a barrier to implementing green infrastructure projects and taking action to change the physical environment.

Through this "walkshop" we aim to gather your expert input on your perspectives on nature and the built environment, how green infrastructure can reduce climate change impacts, and what possible solutions we can develop together. At this event, experts will deploy a [Responsible Futuring](#) approach, employing trans-disciplinary practices and principles of responsible design to generate potential solutions for strengthening blue-green roof proposals. Participants will work together to develop concrete steps and an action timeline for implementing local green infrastructure projects.

To sign up for the Urban Green Infrastructure "Walkshop," [please register by 5 October](#). There are only 30 spaces available, so if you are interested in attending, please reserve your place as soon as possible. [Register](#) here. Point of Contact: [Sean Vrieliink](#), ET Faculty.

## Personal train-travel stories (1/2): Conference trip by train – from Enschede to Napels and back

I took a train trip to European Colloid and Interface Science conference in Naples. Yes, Naples is a bit far away, definitely beyond the standard range of our train map. Nevertheless, it is perfectly doable. And it is affordable if you choose to travel with an interrail ticket. Four travel days within one month for 258€. That's cheaper than flying and it saves 710 kg of CO2.

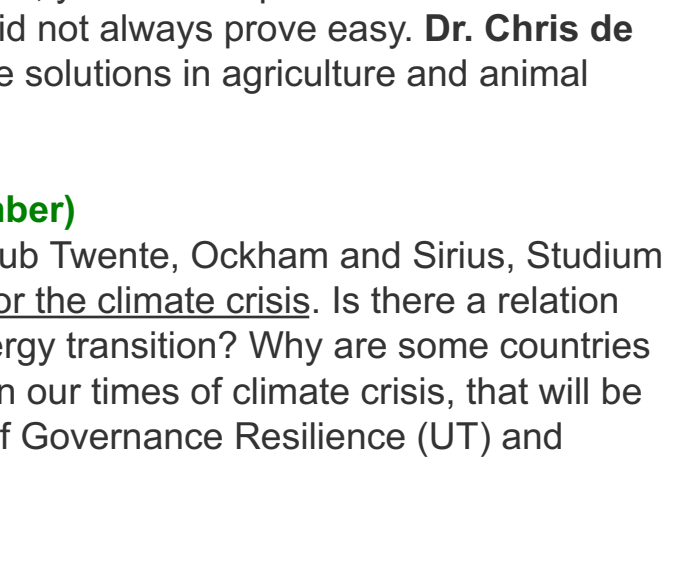


Traveling south, I stopped over in Zürich and spent an evening with friends I hadn't seen in a long time. On the way back, I used the Italian night train. Excellent experience. Italian trains are fast & on time. (Forza, Frecciarossa!!!) You need to buy supplement tickets of 16€ for reservations on fast trains. (The only problem was in crossing Germany. An hour of delay is standard there...)

**So, if you need to go to Milan, Torino, Florence, Bologna, Rome, down to Naples: no need to fly. All this can and should be included in our UT train map! -- Frieder**

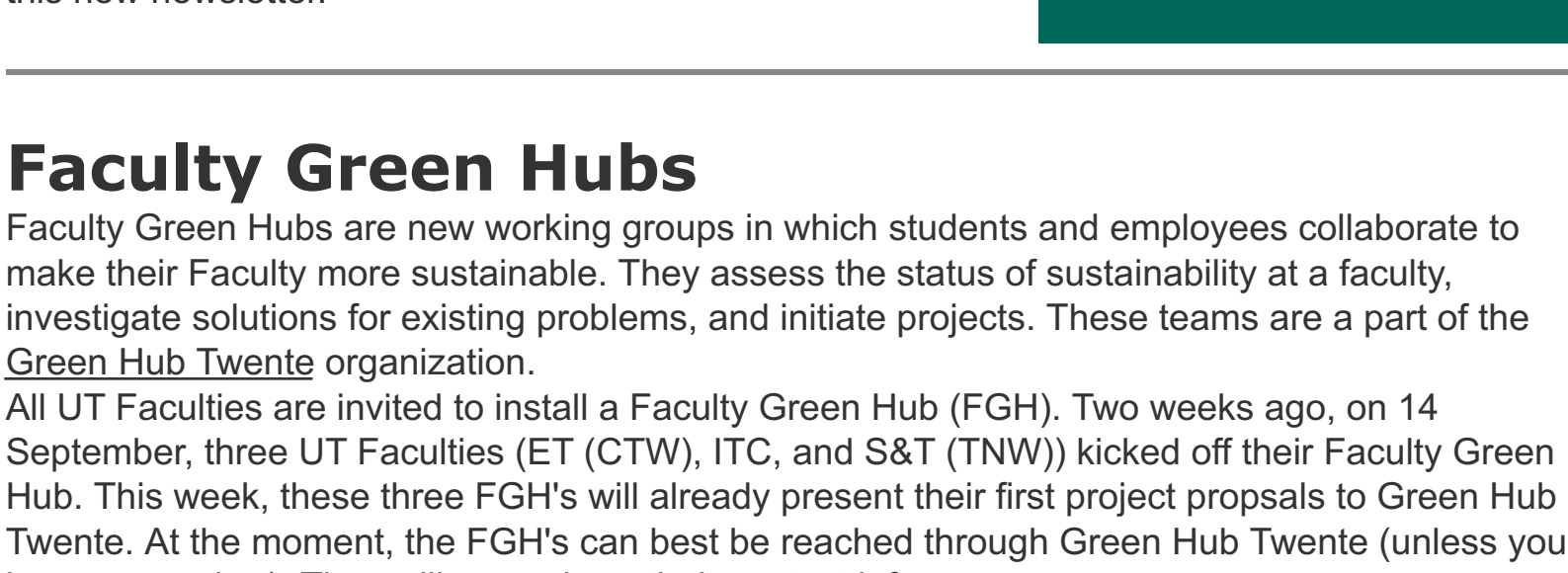
## Personal train-travel stories (2/2): Conference trip by train – from Enschede to Budapest and back

In May of this year, my colleague and I, both with UT Strategic Business Development, attended a conference in Budapest. Although the destination is labelled as *challenging* in terms of comfort according to the [UT train map](#), we decided to put our endurance to the test. We took the NightJet (DB) train departing Utrecht at 20.00 and arrived next morning in Vienna at 09.30, a significantly longer journey at night since the train moves relatively slowly and stops frequently most likely to lengthen the trip so travelers do not have to disembark at dawn. For a decent night's sleep we recommend reserving a sleeping cabin. Although the bathrooms at the end of the wagon are shared there is at least a shower and we never had to wait. We cannot recommend the shared couchettes (which we reserved on the way back) as fellow travelers may embark and disembark in the middle of the night and this was not conducive to good night's sleep.



We were able to catch a connecting train to Budapest an hour after arrival in Vienna which normally takes close to three hours. At this point we started to feel that it was enough train travel. We arrived the afternoon before the conference so had time to recover.

**Would we do it again? Certainly, for holiday travel. For business trips a good buffer at both ends of the trip is recommended before you jump into work mode, but this is often the case for air travel too. -- Caroline**



## Global citizenship

The next generation of students must bring global citizenship and sustainability to the business world. You can find an interesting article about this topic on [ScienceGuide](#) (in Dutch).

## Studium Generale

Studium Generale has some interesting events in queue! You are welcome to join; see the Calendar at the end of the newsletter for details of time and locations.

### A new Milkyway: from cow to soybean (12 October)

In cooperation with Scientists4Future-Twente and Green Hub Twente, Studium Generale organises an event called [A new Milkyway: from cow to soybean](#) (in Dutch), about the transition from animal to plant protein production. Together with his brother, Twente farmer **Tom Grobden MSc** changed tack: their pastures became fields for soybeans. Under the name *The New Milk Farmer*, they produce plant-based soy milk. So with them, you see the protein transition from animal to vegetable proteins in practice. That change did not always prove easy. **Dr. Chris de Visser** (Wageningen University) researches sustainable solutions in agriculture and animal husbandry. Talkshow host: **Drs. Hiska Bakker** (SG).

### Political solutions for the climate crisis? (14 November)

In cooperation with Scientists4Future-Twente, Green Hub Twente, Ockham and Sirius, Studium Generale organises an event about [Political solutions for the climate crisis?](#) Is there a relation between the political system and the success of an energy transition? Why are some countries more successful than others? Fundamental questions in our times of climate crisis, that will be addressed by **Dr. Florence Metz**, assistant professor of Governance Resilience (UT) and winner of the Professor De Winter Prize 2022.

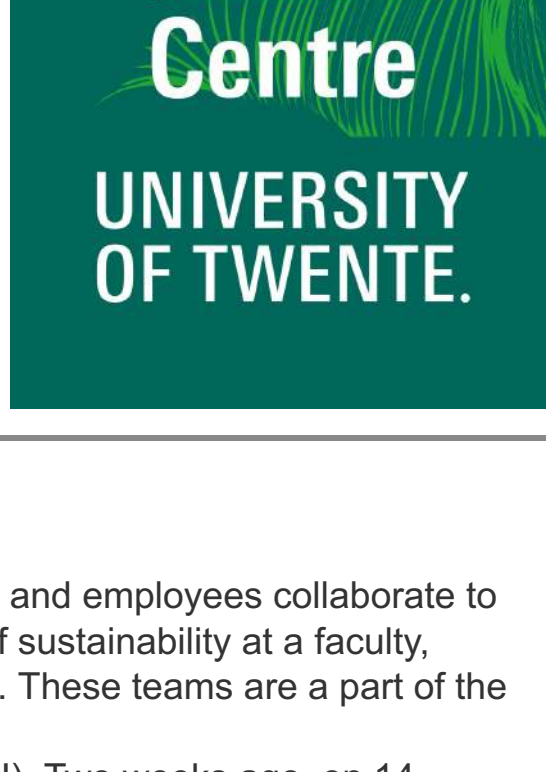
### And... Climate action! (21 November)

Most people agree that action must be taken to reduce the effects of climate change. But what is the most effective way to set things in motion? **Climate action?** Is blocking a highway or gluing yourself to a famous piece of art the right way? Or is establishing an academic climate centre more effective? Discussion with: **prof.dr.ir. Albert van den Berg**, **Miriam Luizink MSc**, **dr. Cheryl de Boer** (founders of the **UT Climate Centre**) and **dr. Ernst-Jan Kuiper** (climate scientist and Extinction Rebellion activist). In cooperation with Scientists4Future-Twente, Green Hub Twente, KIVI Students Twente, Ockham and Scientists & University Rebellion.

## Update UT Climate Centre

The **UT Climate Centre** has chosen a 'geo-techno-social' approach for navigating climate challenges. The centre recently held its third Climate Café, and will also be organizing Climate Colloquia at the UT, starting in November.

You are invited to follow the Climate Centre on [LinkedIn](#). A UT Climate Centre Newsletter has been started – the first edition is available online [here](#); you can [subscribe](#) to this new newsletter.



## Faculty Green Hubs

Faculty Green Hubs are new working groups in which students and employees collaborate to make their Faculty more sustainable. They assess the status of sustainability at a faculty, investigate solutions for existing problems, and initiate projects. These teams are a part of the [Green Hub Twente](#) organization.

All UT Faculties are invited to establish a Faculty Green Hub (FGH). Two weeks ago, on 14 September, three UT Faculties (ET (CTW), ITC, and S&T (TNW)) kicked off their Faculty Green Hub. This week, these three FGH's will already present their first project proposals to Green Hub Twente. At the moment, the FGH's can best be reached through Green Hub Twente (unless you know a member). They will soon share their contact info.



## A book worth reading: "De bosatlas van weer en klimaat"

This book (in Dutch) clearly explains weather and climate, what was normal the past thousands of years, what has changed, normal and extreme weather, and what we can expect on both a global and local scale in the Netherlands. It also has good infographs on possible energy grids, water logging, health impacts and what our country might look like in 2120. Highlights are the chances of extreme weather per month such as September 35% chance of hot after summer weather followed by October with 11% chance of first nightly freezing temperatures.

## Alliance of World Scientists

Because global climate and environmental problems are increasing rapidly, Alliance of World Scientists (AWS) is calling for new members. The AWS is an independent, international organization that provides the collective international voice of thousands of scientists regarding the global climate crisis and environmental trends with the intent to turn accumulated knowledge into action. Their membership is currently 26,598 and their goal is hundreds to thousands of new members. They welcome scientists from any scientific discipline, including graduate students in the sciences.

You can become a signatory on the [paper that declared a climate emergency](#) by visiting [this link](#) (see [list of current signatories](#)). [Increasing the AWS membership will help support its efforts to inform the public and policymakers about environmental issues.](#) AWS members will also be able to get involved in Scientists' Warning article series. More than 40 [Scientists' Warning journal articles](#) have been published so far. The environment is under siege and we need to work together.

## Calendar

Date, time	Event	Location
Tuesday 3 October 2023, 12:30-13:30	S4F-Twente informal lunch meeting (see item in this newsletter)	Waaier canteen
Thursday 12 October 2023, 11:00-14:00	Circular Economy Platform Twente event: Exploring Circular Economy Solutions for a Sustainable Future	Langezijds LA2101 + LA2105
Thursday 12 October 2023, 20:00-22:00	Studium Generale: <a href="#">A new Milkyway: from cow to soybean</a> (in Dutch)	Enschede – Oude Markt - Concordia
Tuesday 17 October 2023, 20:30-22:00	Fireside chat (live!)	Frieder's place (see item above)
Thursday 19 October 2023, 09:00-13:00	Urban Green Infrastructure "Walkshop" UT	Design Lab
Friday 20 October 2023, 12:30-13:30	S4F-Twente informal lunch meeting	Waaier canteen
Tuesday 7 November 2023, 12:30-13:30	S4F-Twente informal lunch meeting (see item in this newsletter)	Waaier canteen
Sunday 12 November 2023, 13:00	<a href="#">March for Climate and Justice</a>	Amsterdam
Tuesday 14 November 2023, 19:30-21:00	Studium Generale: <a href="#">Political solutions for the climate crisis?</a>	Vrijhof Amfiteater
Friday 17 November 2023, 12:30-13:30	S4F-Twente informal lunch meeting	Waaier canteen
Tuesday 21 November 2023, 19:30-21:00	Studium Generale: <a href="#">And... Climate action!</a>	Vrijhof Amfiteater

## Interesting links

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

The S4F-Twente newsletter team – Leonie Krab, Caroline van Bers, Yuri Engelhardt, Brechje Maréchal, Daniel Monteiro Cunha, Gerjan Koster, Frieder Mugele, Alexey Voinov, Sean Vrieliink – [twente@scientists4future.nl](#)  
**Scientists4Future-Twente – Coalition of concerned scientists**

If this newsletter was forwarded to you, you can [contact us](#) to become a supporter and participant yourself!