



Dear {{voornaam}},

This is the Scientists4Future NL newsletter of December 2022, this month coordinated by S4F Wageningen. To subscribe, click [here](#). To unsubscribe, use the link at the bottom of this email.

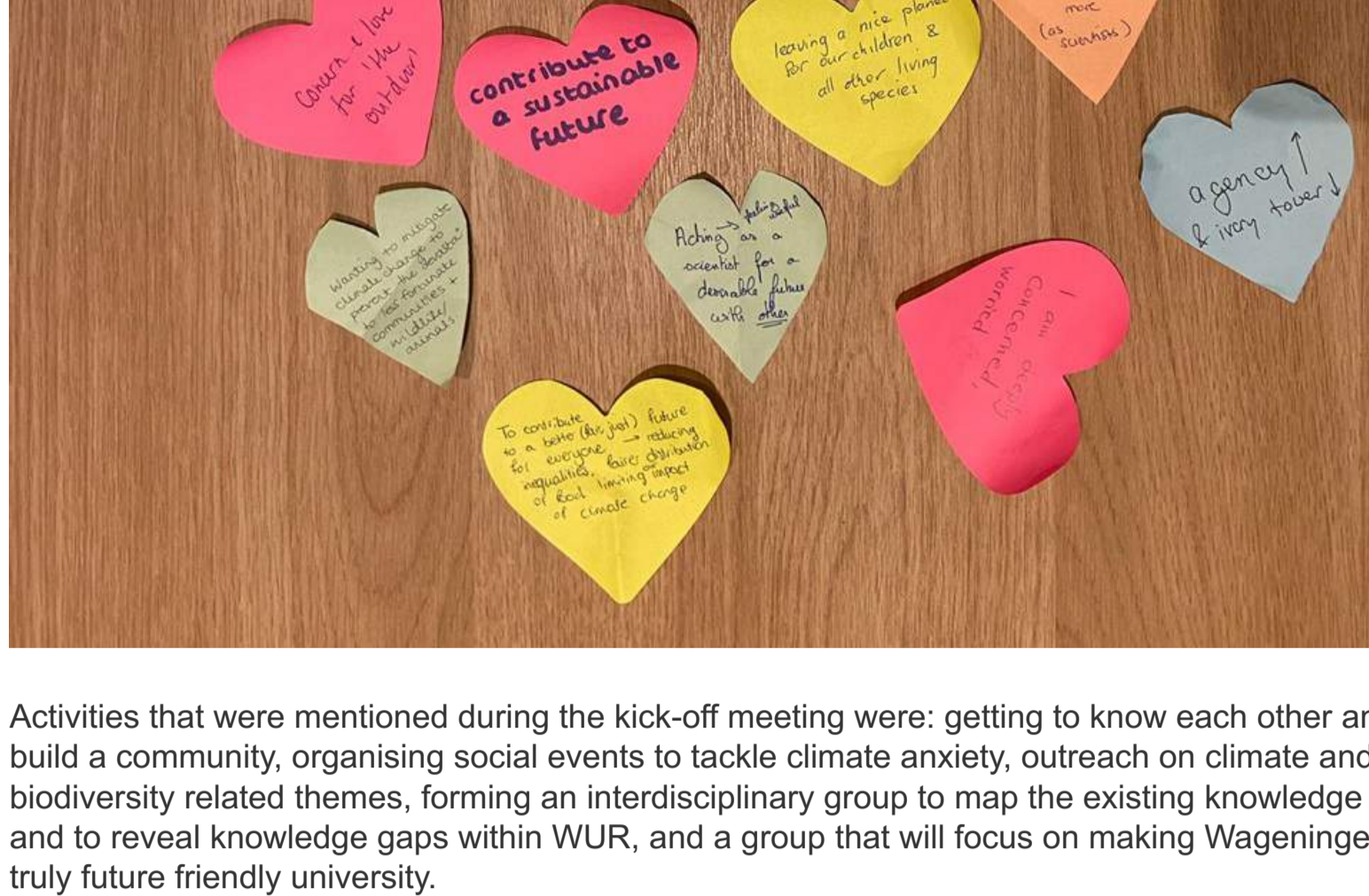
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Editorial

This month's newsletter is hosted by Team Wageningen, a brand new section of S4F. The initiative was taken by Geert Aarts, Susanne van Donk (researchers at Wageningen Marine Research) and Ignas Heitkönig (assistant professor at Wildlife Ecology and Conservation). Around thirty people joined the first kick-off meeting in which the initiators gave an introduction on S4F, discussed in smaller groups our motivation to join the group and what possible activities of the group could include.

The input of all attendees was used to construct a preliminary structure. A steering group was formed including the initiators + Anne-Juul Welsink, Chloé Tavernier and Martijn Duineveld. This group meets on a weekly basis to coordinate shaping the Wageningen S4F group, helps organise activities and keeps others informed. But everyone within the group, which now consists of ~80 people, is free to form a subgroup or initiate an activity.



Activities that were mentioned during the kick-off meeting were: getting to know each other and build a community, organising social events to tackle climate anxiety, outreach on climate and biodiversity related themes, forming an interdisciplinary group to map the existing knowledge and to reveal knowledge gaps within WUR, and a group that will focus on making Wageningen a truly future friendly university.

Tomorrow, the group will come together to watch the degrowth webinar together (Thursday 8 December – 20:00 – 21:15 CET: [A degrowth agenda for the Netherlands. The concluding panel discussion](#)) and share a potluck dinner. In Februari we will organise a hackathon, to discuss and render visible the ties between Dutch Universities and the fossil fuel industry.

We're looking forward to learn from and work with the other S4F teams across the country. Feel free to reach out to us; we will keep you posted!

Best wishes,

Susanne van Donk, Ignas Heitkönig, Anne-Juul Welsink, Chloé Tavernier, Geert Aarts and Martijn Duineveld

P.S. The kick-off meeting was covered by the university newsletter ['Resource'](#) as well as on de [WUR website](#).

Demonstration against gas extraction from under the Wadden Sea

By: Nicole Bale

On Saturday 26th of November there was a [demonstration](#) organised by [Milieudefensie](#) and the [Waddenvereniging](#) in Holwerd, Friesland to protest plans to drill for gas under the Wadden Sea. Alongside a number of campaign leaders and locals, Leo van Kampenhout from Scientist4Future gave a speech. He spoke firstly about the [S4F letter](#) to the Dutch government voicing concern about this gas extraction project which was signed by hundreds of scientists. Leo then went on to address the enormous costs of ignoring the climate crises, both to nature and humanity.

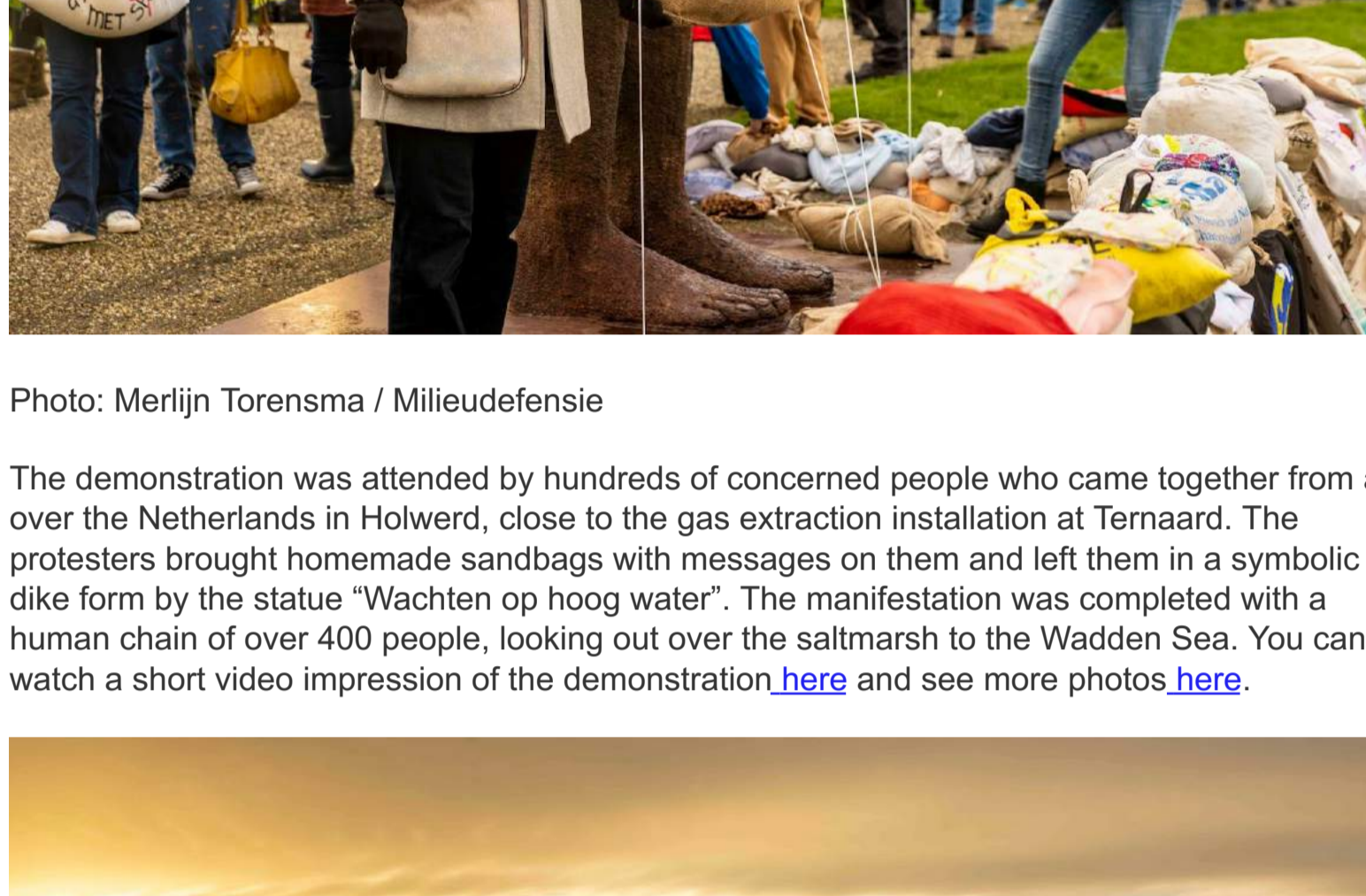


Photo: Merlijn Torensma / Milieudefensie

The demonstration was attended by hundreds of concerned people who came together from all over the Netherlands in Holwerd, close to the gas extraction installation at Ternaard. The protesters brought homemade sandbags with messages on them and left them in a symbolic dike form by the statue "Wachten op hoog water". The manifestation was completed with a human chain of over 400 people, looking out over the saltmarsh to the Wadden Sea. You can watch a short video impression of the demonstration [here](#) and see more photos [here](#).

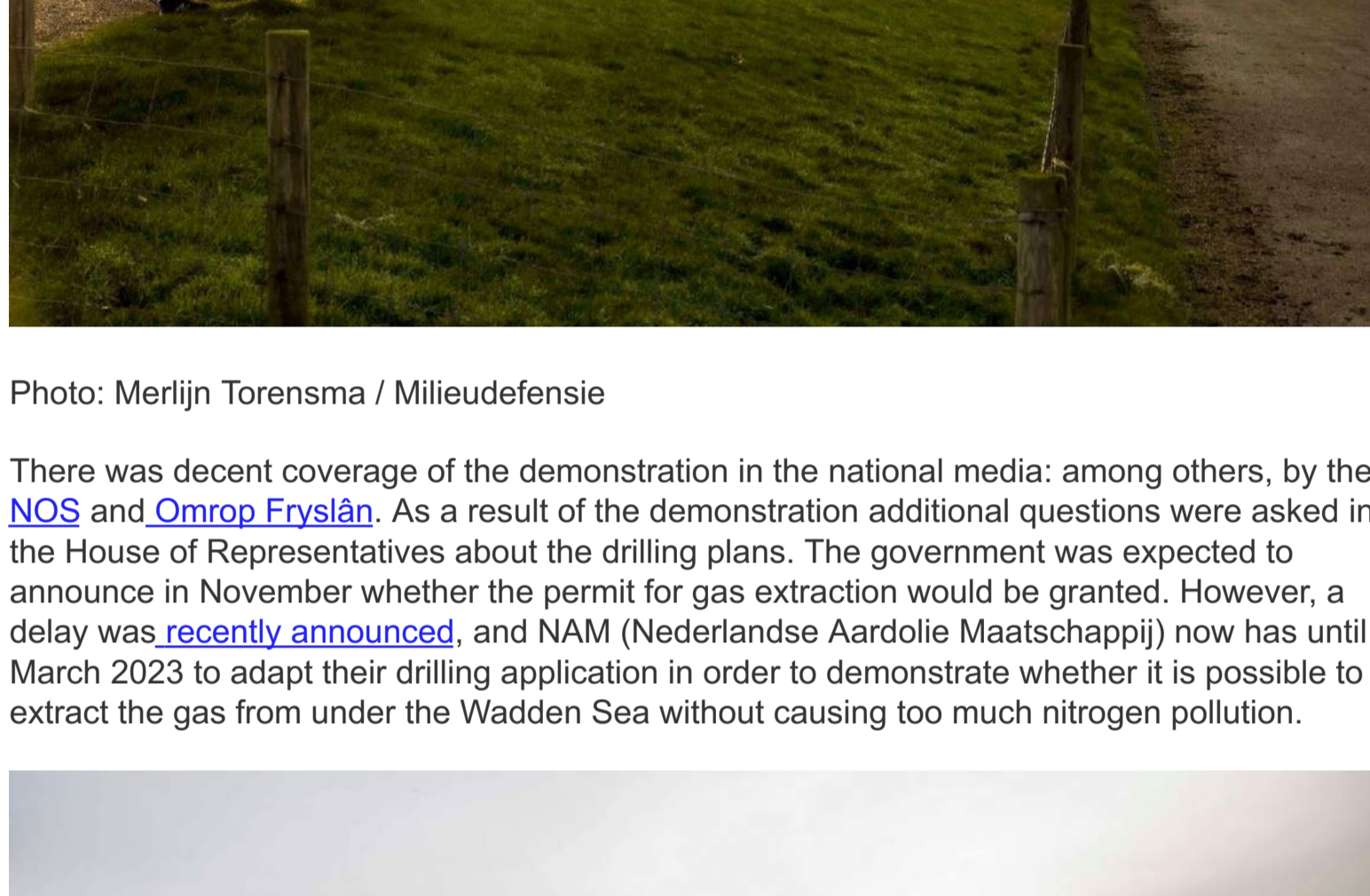


Photo: Merlijn Torensma / Milieudefensie

There was decent coverage of the demonstration in the national media: among others, by the [NOS](#) and [Omrop Fryslân](#). As a result of the demonstration additional questions were asked in the House of Representatives about the drilling plans. The government was expected to announce in November whether the permit for gas extraction would be granted. However, a delay was [recently announced](#), and NAM (Nederlandse Aardolie Maatschappij) now has until March 2023 to adapt their drilling application in order to demonstrate whether it is possible to extract the gas from under the Wadden Sea without causing too much nitrogen pollution.

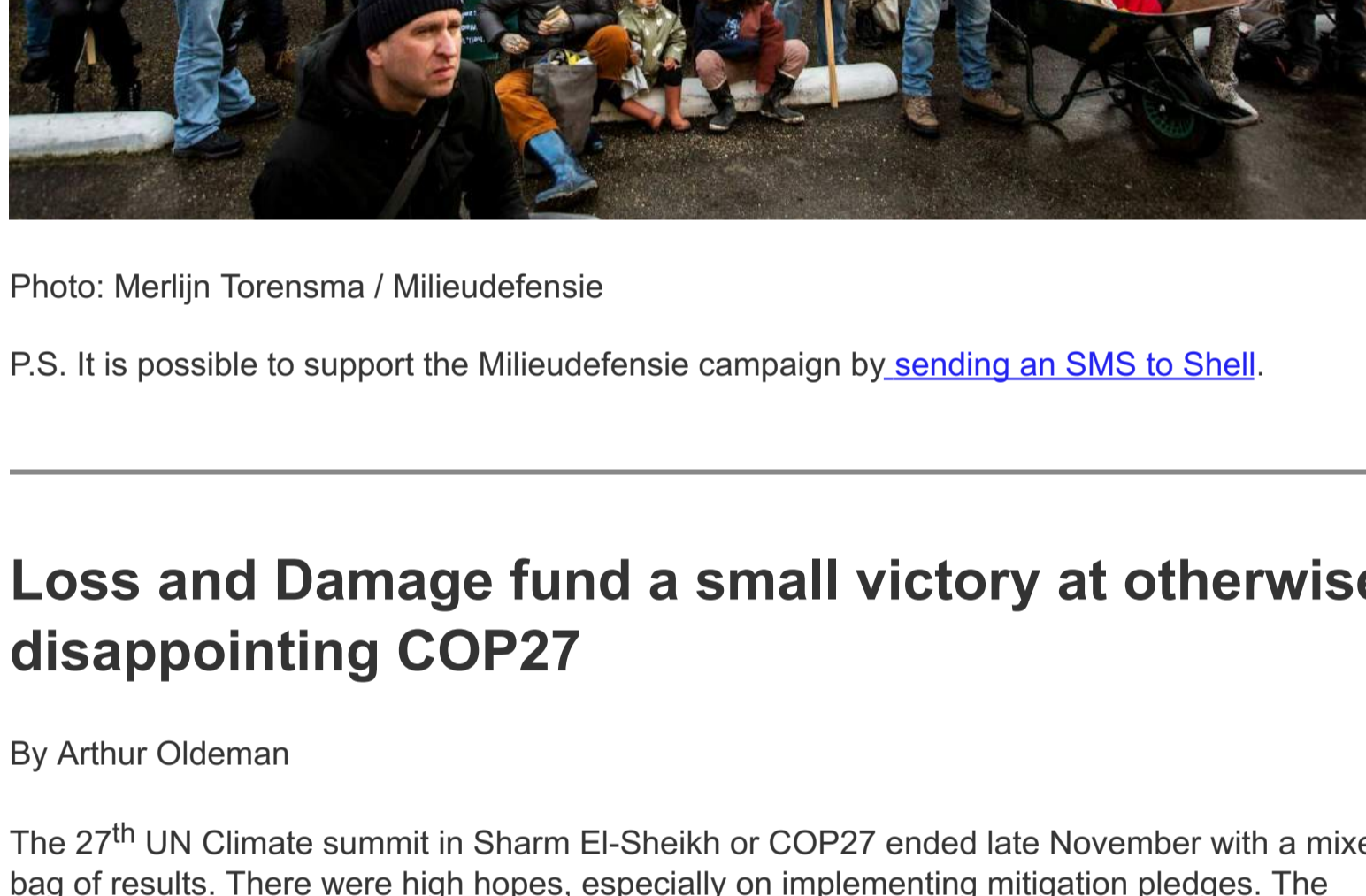


Photo: Merlijn Torensma / Milieudefensie

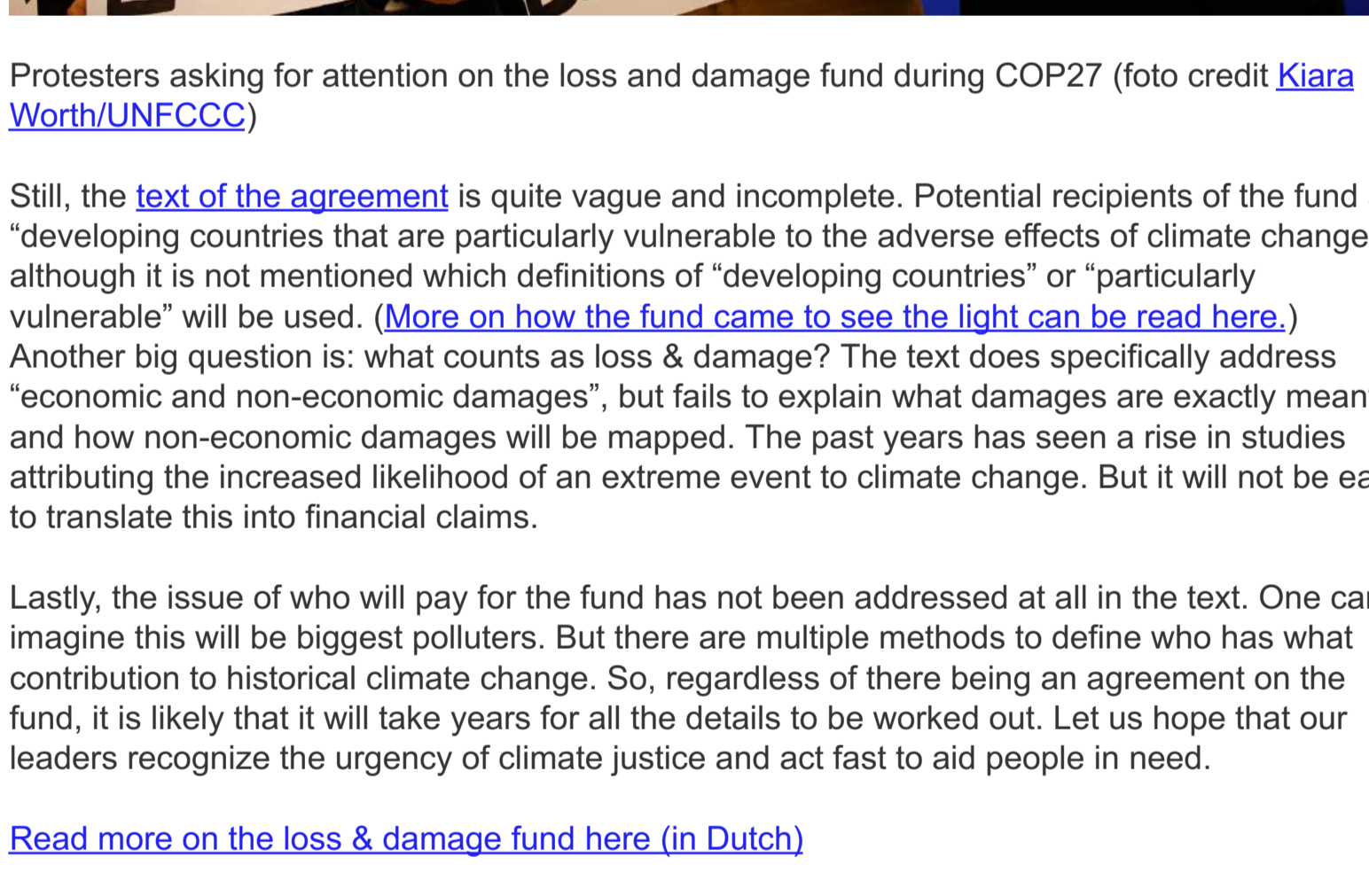
P.S. It is possible to support the Milieudefensie campaign by [sending an SMS to Shell](#).

Loss and Damage fund a small victory at otherwise disappointing COP27

By Arthur Oldeman

The 27th UN Climate Summit in Sharm El-Sheikh or COP27 ended late November with a mixed bag of results. There were high hopes, especially on implementing mitigation pledges. The Egyptian presidency even promised a Sharm El-Sheikh "implementation plan", in which pledges from past years to limit warming to 1.5C would be polished and perfected into actionable plans. However, there was little success on this item, and in the end certain pledges ended up being weakened. Even the 1.5C goal itself was discussed, but luckily it was kept alive – although one can wonder about the ease of achieving this goal with yet another COP wasted on discussing pledges... ([read more on COP27 outcomes here](#))

Luckily, there was more success on adaptation and climate finance. Specifically, COP27 ended with an agreement on a loss and damage fund. This fund is supposed to provide financial aid to countries that already face damages and losses due to the adverse effect of climate change. Many leaders of Pacific Island states and climate justice activists [celebrate the agreement](#) as a historic victory.



Protesters asking for attention on the loss and damage fund during COP27 (foto credit [Kiara Worth/UNFCCC](#))

Still, the [text of the agreement](#) is quite vague and incomplete. Potential recipients of the fund are "developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change", although it is not mentioned which definitions of "developing countries" or "particularly vulnerable" will be used. ([More on how the fund came to see the light can be read here.](#)) Another big question is: what counts as loss & damage? The text does specifically address "economic and non-economic damages", but fails to explain what damages are exactly meant, and how non-economic damages will be mapped. The past years has seen a rise in studies attributing the increased likelihood of an extreme event to climate change. But it will not be easy to translate this into financial claims.

Lastly, the issue of who will pay for the fund has not been addressed at all in the text. One can imagine this will be biggest polluters. But there are multiple methods to define who has what contribution to historical climate change. So, regardless of there being an agreement on the fund, it is likely that it will take years for all the details to be worked out. Let us hope that our leaders recognize the urgency of climate justice and act fast to aid people in need.

[Read more on the loss & damage fund here \(in Dutch\)](#)

Not a book review

Gas, Oil and Heritage Well-oiled Histories and Corporate Sponsorship in Dutch Museums By Martijn Duineveld

This is not a book review. Just my whole-hearted recommendation for a very informative paper written by Gerjjan Plets (Utrecht University) and Marin Kuijt (Leiden University).



'How does corporate sponsorship shape the narration and curation of Dutch history in public museums? This article evaluates the significance and impact of private funding in the Dutch heritage and museum sectors. By focusing on three museums that have received funding from Dutch oil and gas companies we foreground specifically the nexus heritage, oil, and funding. We show how a particular type of 'energy literacy' is promoted, a narrative that is favourable to the agenda of the gas and oil sector. Our explorations are based on interviews with museum officials, an analysis of policy documents, and a close reading of exhibitions. By describing the impact of oil and gas money on the Dutch heritage sector, this article charts the growing influence of corporate players in the Dutch public cultural sector. Following neoliberal reforms in 2011-2012 promoting cultural entrepreneurship and self-sufficiency, museums and heritage sites had to act even more like businesses and attract sponsorships and gifts from private players. This development is part of a global retraction of the state in the public sector. Our discussion of the intricacies of corporate heritage funding in the Netherlands shows that through a fairly limited investment, enterprises acquire disproportionate outreach and influence in the cultural heritage field, an environment that is generally perceived by the public as reliable and independent.'

Plets, G., & Kuijt, M. (2022). [Gas, Oil and Heritage Well-oiled Histories and Corporate Sponsorship in Dutch Museums \(1990-2021\)](#). *BGMN-THE LOW COUNTRIES HISTORICAL REVIEW*, 137(1), 50-77.

Upcoming events

Thursday 8 December – 20:00 – 21:15 CET: [A degrowth agenda for the Netherlands. The concluding panel discussion](#)

Special webinar series on degrowth
co-organized by S4F & Ontgroei

Paul Schenderling
Postgroei Nederland

Faiza Oulahsen
Greenpeace

Felix van Hotten
Hogeschool Rotterdam

Local groups

- [Utrecht](#)
- [Leiden](#)
- [Delft](#)
- [Twente](#)
- Nijmegen
- Deventer/Zutphen
- Groningen
- Maastricht
- NIOZ (Texel and Yerseke)
- Wageningen

Get involved!

Are you a subscriber to this newsletter who is not yet actively involved in S4F NL? Curious to find out more about what S4F does and how you can contribute? Get in touch via contact@scientists4future.nl or email Disa at d.a.sauter@uva.nl

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