

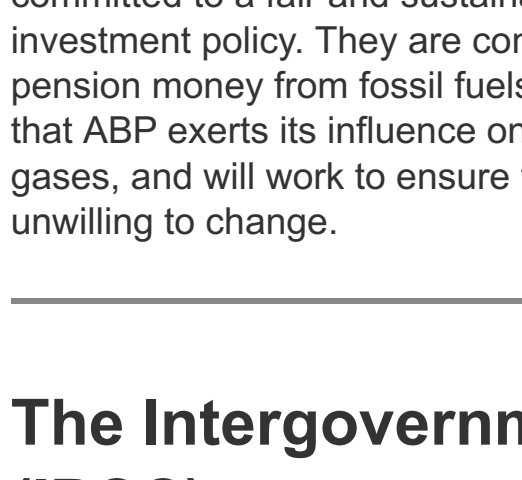
Dear {{voornaam}},

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

## In this newsletter:

- Cast your vote for ABP's accountability body
- IPCC assessment report 6, WG 3: Mitigation of climate change
- An impression of the Scientist Rebellion global action week
- Recommended reading: The Human Planet: How We Created the Anthropocene
- Climate and biodiversity initiatives in the Netherlands
- Opinion piece in de Volkskrant - "Tuinieren zonder turf"
- V-100 verantwoordingsdag
- Training: media outreach for young climate researchers
- Get involved!
- Upcoming events

## Cast your vote for ABP's accountability body



On 26 October 2021 Stichting Pensioenfonds ABP ("National Civil Pension Fund") decided to start [divesting pension money away from fossil fuels](#). Great news, but we need to stay on top of ABP to make sure they stick to their promises. We can do this by voting for the Accountability Body. **Voting is online between 4 and 24 April** using the unique code sent to you by mail or a letter from the ABP pension.

### Candidates committed to sustainable and responsible investments

If you are looking for a candidate who is committed to sustainable and responsible investment, you can see the [Fossilvrij NL short list of candidates](#). On the short list are people who are committed to a fair and sustainable pension and who want to keep a close eye on ABP's investment policy. They are considered the most likely to ensure that ABP actually removes your pension money from fossil fuels. In addition, they are expected to work the hardest to ensure that ABP exerts its influence on companies that currently emit large amounts of greenhouse gases, and will work to ensure that ABP has strong exclusion criteria for companies that are unwilling to change.

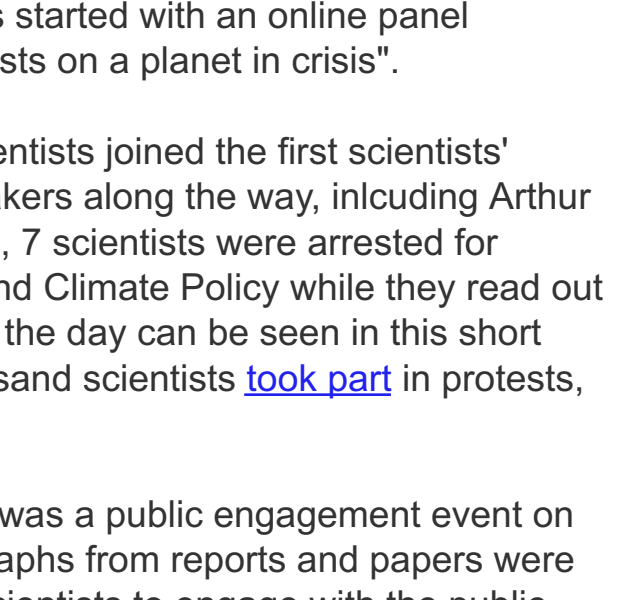
## The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) assessment report: Mitigation of Climate Change

On 4th April the final working group report from the sixth IPCC assessment was released: [AR6 Climate Change 2022: Mitigation of Climate Change](#).

According to the IPCC this report is "an updated global assessment of climate change mitigation progress and pledges". In particular this report focuses on the need for "immediate and deep emissions reductions" in order to limit global warming to 1.5°C.

"We are at a crossroads. The decisions we make now can secure a liveable future. We have the tools and know-how required to limit warming," said IPCC Chair Hoesung Lee. "I am encouraged by climate action being taken in many countries. There are policies, regulations and market instruments that are proving effective. If these are scaled up and applied more widely and equitably, they can support deep emissions reductions and stimulate innovation."

For an in depth Q&A about the WG 3 report we recommend again the analysis by [Carbon Brief](#).



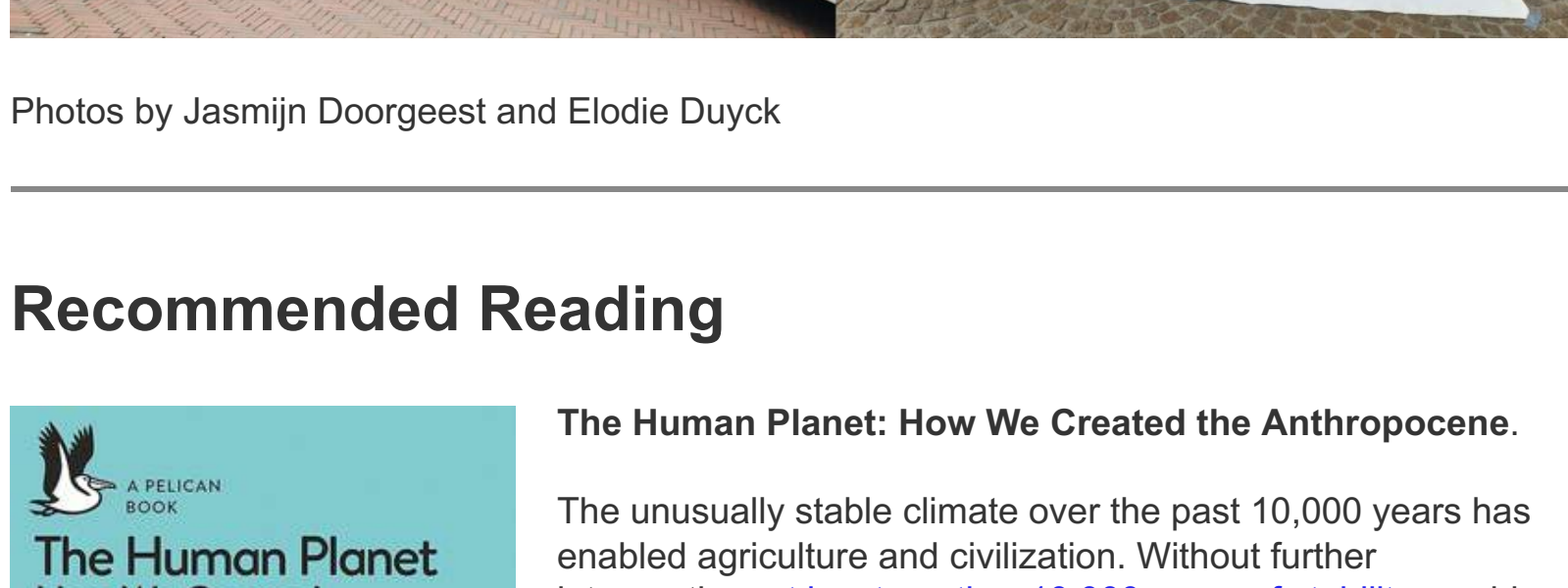
## The Scientist Rebellion week of action, April 2022

From 4th - 9th April, [Scientist Rebellion](#) mobilized a global week of protests for scientists to demonstrate against government inaction on the climate and ecological crisis. Throughout the week, four events were [organized in the Netherlands](#). This started with an online panel discussion on Monday 4th with the title "The role of scientists on a planet in crisis".

On Wednesday 6th April, in The Hague, more than 50 scientists joined the first scientists' climate march in the Netherlands. There were expert speakers along the way, including Arthur Oldeman and Marjan Smeulders from S4F NL. Meanwhile, 7 scientists were arrested for blocking an entrance of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy while they read out sections of the most recent IPCC report. An impression of the day can be seen in this short but [powerful video](#). On the same day globally, over a thousand scientists [took part](#) in protests, civil disobedience actions, and strikes.

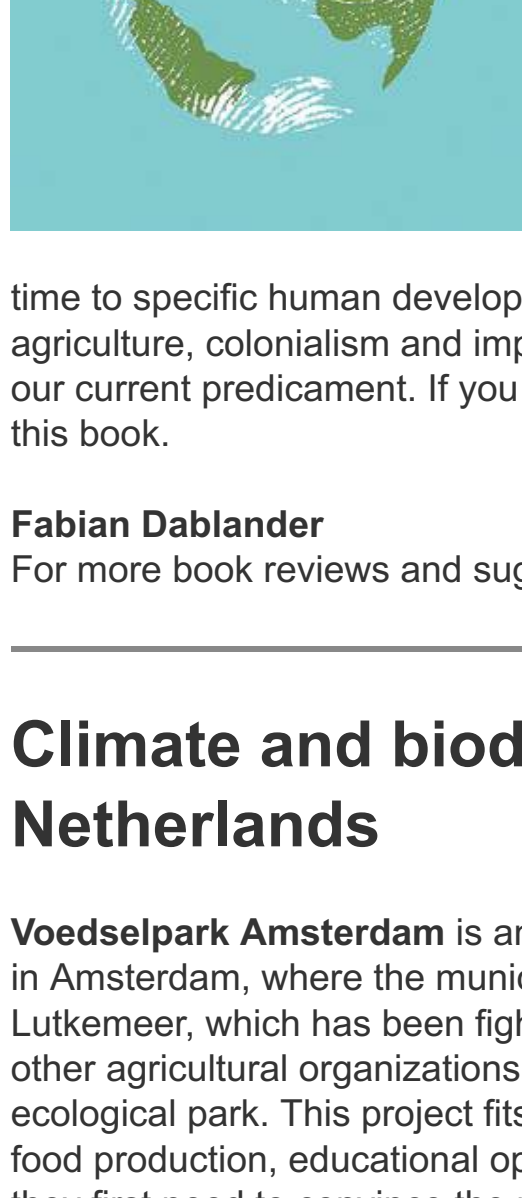
To round off the week of actions in the Netherlands, there was a public engagement event on the Saturday on Dam Square, Amsterdam. Quotes and graphs from reports and papers were drawn on a large canvas on the floor, which allowed the scientists to engage with the public.

Scientist Rebellion NL host weekly online introduction [meetings](#) every Thursday at 6.30 - 7.30 pm where people can find out how to get involved. You can also follow Scientist Rebellion NL on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), and [Twitter](#) for updates, pictures of the actions, and more.



Photos by Jasmijn Doorgeest and Elodie Duyck

## Recommended Reading



### The Human Planet: How We Created the Anthropocene.

The unusually stable climate over the past 10,000 years has enabled agriculture and civilization. Without further intervention, [at least another 10,000 years of stability](#) would have ensued. However, starting in the 1950s, in what has been dubbed [The Great Acceleration](#), humans dramatically grew their population and their economies, becoming a planetary-scale geological force that continues to exert enormous pressure on the Earth system. The consequences of this are [becoming increasingly apparent](#). But they could become much worse.

How have we become such a planetary-scale geological force? And how do Earth system scientists make sense of this development? The Human Planet, which grew out of a seminal [article in Nature](#) on defining the Anthropocene by Simon Lewis and Mark Maslin, provides an extremely insightful and informative treatment of this and related questions. From details on the organizations of geological time to specific human developments - such as our migration out of Africa, the development of agriculture, colonialism and imperialism - this book provides essential knowledge contextualizing our current predicament. If you want to better understand the present, look to the past and read this book.

Fabian Dablander

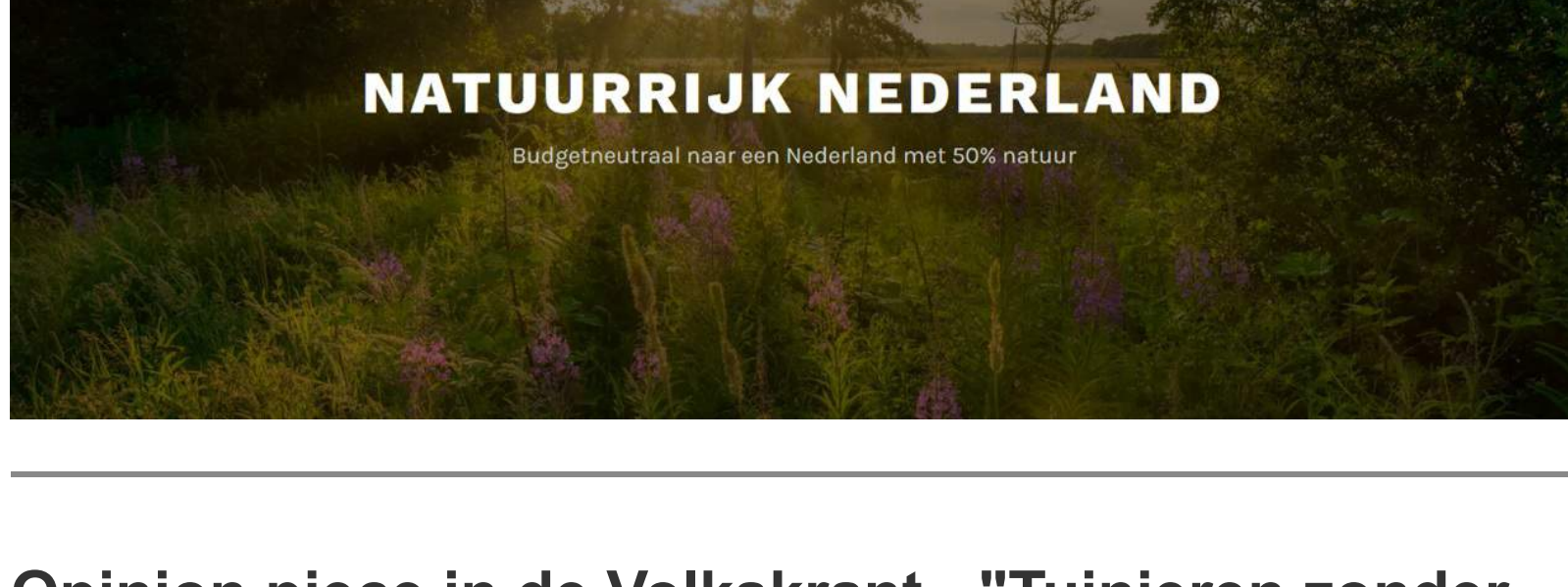
For more book reviews and suggestions by Fabian, see [here](#).

## Climate and biodiversity initiatives in the Netherlands

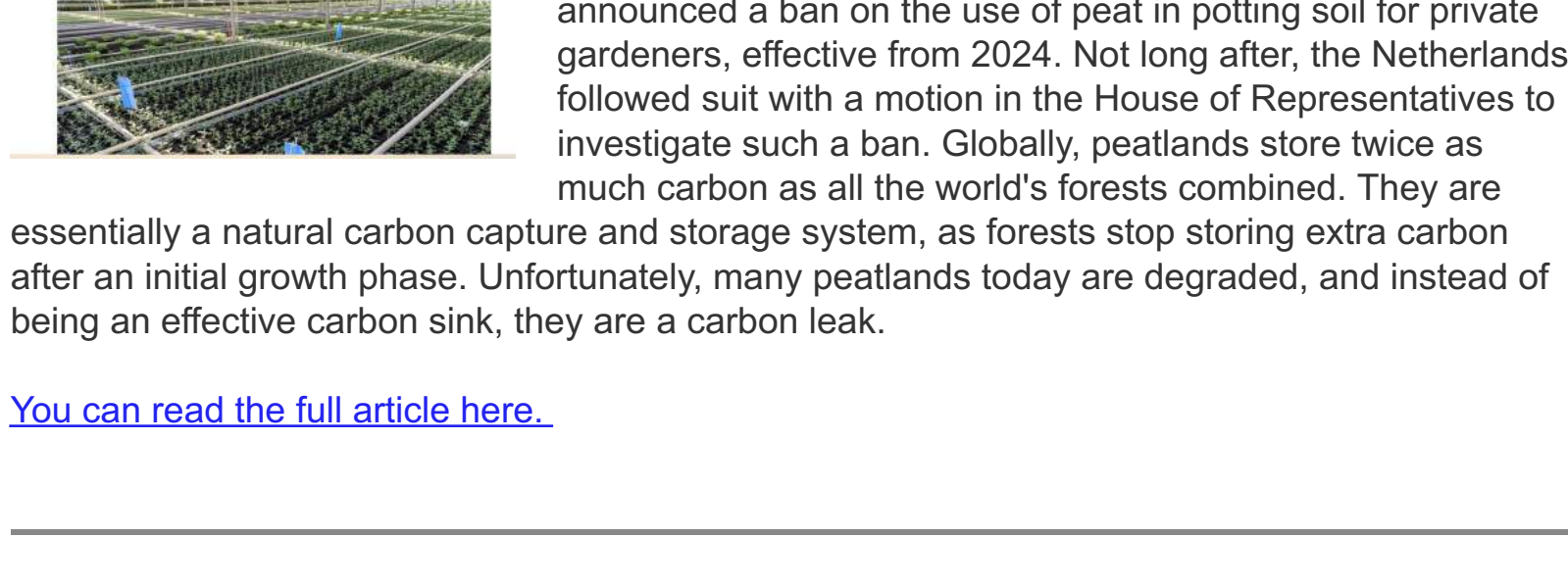
**Voedselpark Amsterdam** is an alternative plan for Lutkemeerpolder, the last organic fertile land in Amsterdam, where the municipality wants to build a distribution center. The group Behoud Lutkemeer, which has been fighting for years to preserve this piece of land, teamed up with other agricultural organizations and developed a project for a commonly owned urban agro-ecological park. This project fits into Amsterdam's sustainability goals and would provide local food production, educational opportunities, and a haven for biodiversity. To realize this vision, they first need to convince the municipality to return the zoning to agrarian and sell them the land. A crowdfunding was launched to show there is wide support for this alternative project, and to raise funds to buy the land collectively. You can find more information on the plans and how to help on [their website](#).



**Meer Bomen Nu** (More Trees Now) is a campaign which redistributes unwanted young trees and shrubs from nature areas and parks to give them to the public and farmers for free. For example, birches which are overgrowing in heathland, seedlings which are growing too close to a path or that need to be relocated due to building projects. Last winter Meer Bomen Nu transplanted 500,000 seedlings, with an 80% survival rate. This was carried out by 2000 volunteers, and replanting occurred in the gardens and fields of 800 farmers and members of the public. The aim in the coming winter is to plant one [million trees](#) from November until March, the planting season. More information is available on [their website](#).



**Natuurrijk Nederland** (Nature-rich Netherlands) is an initiative to redesign the Netherlands! The plan is to return half of the Netherlands to nature and in doing so, solve the housing problem, the biodiversity problem, the nitrogen problem and meet climate goals. On [the website](#) the initiators state that this would be "a step forward for our climate, environment and well-being". In particular they focus on seldom-used agricultural grass fields which, according to their website, take up half of the of agricultural land in the Netherlands. While agricultural land takes up 2/3 of the Netherlands, it contributes only 5% to the Dutch economy. A large part of that land is used to produce animal feed or to spread unwanted manure. In order to advance this project, the initiators calculated that generous compensation can be paid to the agricultural sector by building houses on a minimal part of the land, in turn solving the urgent housing shortage



## Opinion piece in de Volkskrant - "Tuinieren zonder turf"

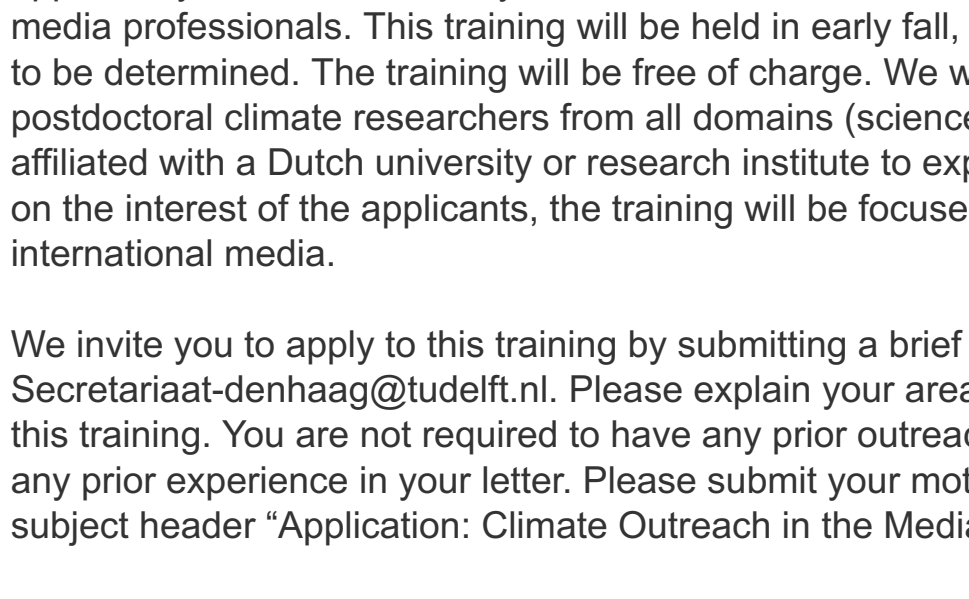


On the 14th April [an opinion piece](#) was published in the Volkskrant by Philipp Gramlich and Karin Bodewits of [Turfvrij](#). In it they describe how gardening is perfectly possible without the use of peat-containing potting soil. An end to the use of peat for gardening would give the climate a helping hand as peat extraction produces massive greenhouse gas emissions and destroys precious landscapes.

They go to explain that in May 2021, the United Kingdom announced a ban on the use of peat in potting soil for private gardeners, effective from 2024. Not long after, the Netherlands followed suit with a motion in the House of Representatives to investigate such a ban. Globally, peatlands store twice as much carbon as all the world's forests combined. They are essentially a natural carbon capture and storage system, as forests stop storing extra carbon after an initial growth phase. Unfortunately, many peatlands today are degraded, and instead of being an effective carbon sink, they are a carbon leak.

[You can read the full article here.](#)

## V-100 verantwoordingsdag 23 mei



De Tweede Kamer nodigt sinds 2017 honderd mensen uit om vanuit een ander perspectief kritische vragen te formuleren over de departementale jaarverslagen.

De V-100 maakt dit jaar deel uit van het tweedaagse evenement ['Beweren en Bewijzen - Ontmoeting tussen wetenschap en politiek'](#), waarin de wetenschappelijke onderbouwing van beleid en de wisselwerking tussen wetenschap en politiek centraal staan. Daarom nodigt de Tweede Kamer ditmaal jonge wetenschappers uit om met een wetenschappelijke bril naar de jaarverslagen te kijken.

Thema's:

- Krachte op de arbeidsmarkt
- Arbeidsmarkt in de zorg
- **Inzet op klimaat en klimaatfinanciering**
- **Vergroening van financiële markten**
- Digitalisering van (financieel) toezicht
- Doelmatigheid en doeltreffendheid van extra middelen
- Uitvoering door de Dienst Uitvoering Onderwijs
- Financiering van uitvoeringsorganisaties

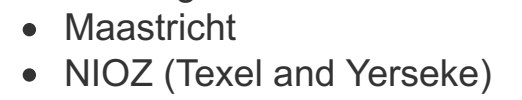
[Meer info + aanmelden.](#)

## Training: Media Outreach for Young Climate Researchers

The reality of climate change and its consequences is becoming increasingly apparent. Current climate related research focuses – among other things – on the physical basis of climate change, the ecological and societal impacts, and the routes for mitigation and adaptation. Understandably, climate related research is expanding, and an increasing number of researchers are involved in various types of climate research. We now face the challenge of communicating the rapidly evolving insights of climate research to society. One important route for doing so is through media outreach: in newspapers, on radio or television, and through social media channels.

To equip early career climate researchers with the skills to communicate their research with the media, TU Delft's Climate Action Hub and Klimaat-Helpdesk are jointly hosting a media outreach training for PhD candidates and postdoctoral researchers. In this training, you will learn about how you can best convey your research and its implications with confidence to a wide media audience. You will engage and build your skills through hands-on case studies. This is also an opportunity to meet other early career researchers from a wide array of disciplines, as well as media professionals. This training will be held in early fall, at TU Delft | The Hague – exact date to be determined. The training will be free of charge. We welcome PhD candidates and postdoctoral climate researchers from all domains (sciences, social sciences, and humanities), affiliated with a Dutch university or research institute to express their interests to us. Depending on the interest of the applicants, the training will be focused on Dutch(-speaking) and/or international media.

We invite you to apply to this training by submitting a brief (half page) motivation letter to [Secretariaat-denaag@tudelft.nl](mailto:Secretariaat-denaag@tudelft.nl). Please explain your area of work and motivate your interest in this training. You are not required to have any prior outreach experience, but feel free to mention any prior experience in your letter. Please submit your motivation letter by May 6th, including the subject header "Application: Climate Outreach in the Media".



## 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](mailto:contact@scientists4future.nl) or email [Disa@t.d.a.sauter@uva.nl](mailto:Disa@t.d.a.sauter@uva.nl)

## Upcoming events

**23rd April:** [The Climate March Conference](#) in Utrecht.

**30th April:** Scientist Rebellion [mobilization and strategy day](#) in Amsterdam.

**9th May:** [S4F NL webinar](#), Simon Portegies Zwart "Green Supercomputing".

**9th May:** [Mobilization call](#) for the 19th June Climate March.

**19-24th May:** National Rebellion against the Fossil Industry, [Extinction Rebellion](#), Rotterdam.

**23rd May:** [V-100 verantwoordingsdag](#)

**9th June:** [S4F NL webinar](#), Joyeeta Gupta "Climate Change, Environmental Justice and Fossil Fuels".

**14th June:** [Cycling 4 Climate](#).

**19th June:** [Climate March](#), Rotterdam. S4F NL will march with the science block.

## Local groups

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



### Starters Guide for new active members

Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) or [Twitter](#) where we share national and international news regarding the role of scientists in times of the climate crisis.

Local S4F-NL groups  
Adapted from [original](#)



This email has been sent to [{{email}}](#). • If you no longer want to receive this newsletter, you can [unsubscribe here](#). • You can also [view and edit your subscription](#). • Please add [contact@scientists4future.nl](mailto:contact@scientists4future.nl) to your address book to ensure our emails continue to reach your inbox.

