

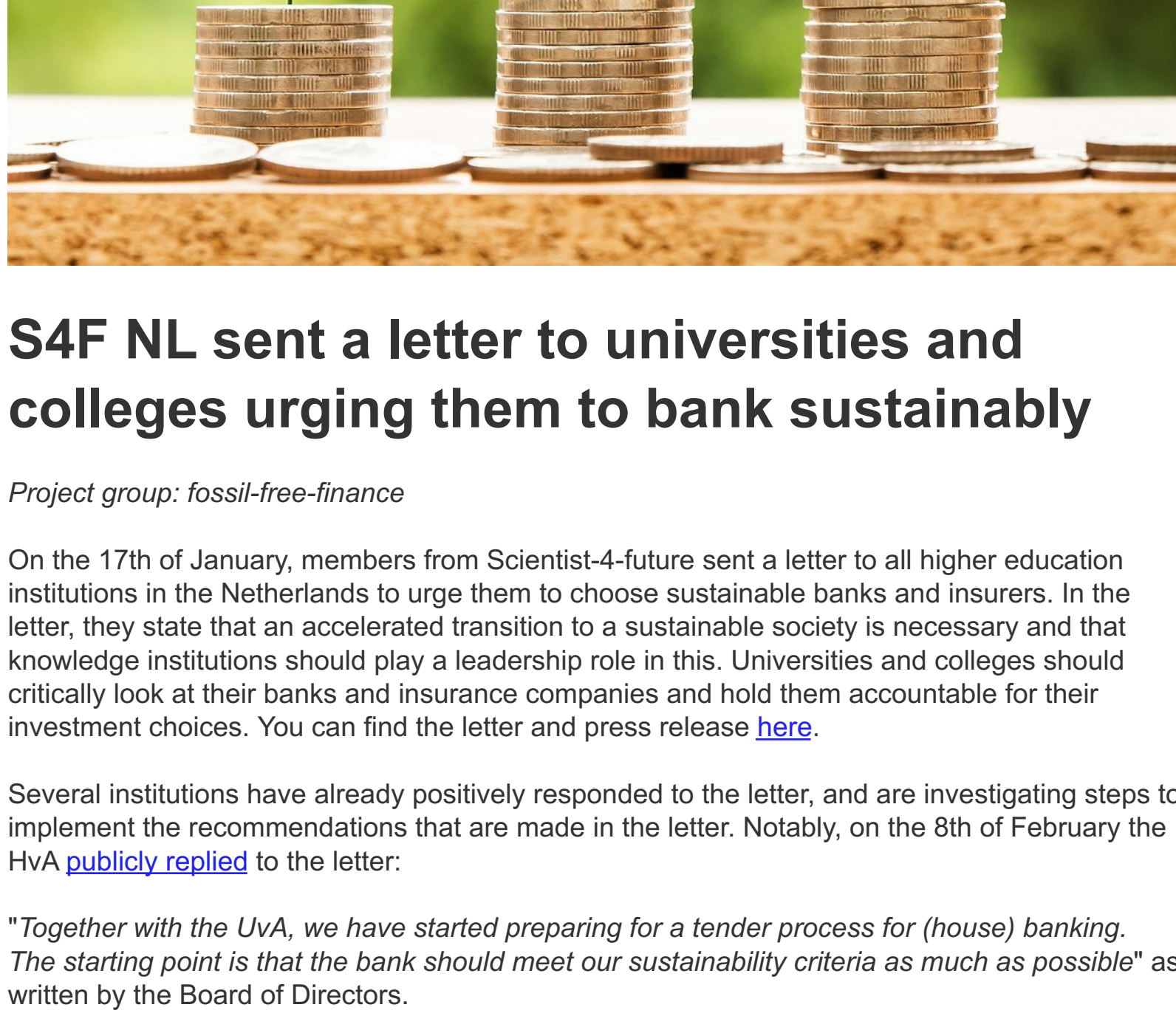


Dear {{voornaam}},

This is the Scientists4Future NL newsletter of February 2023. To subscribe, click [here](#). To unsubscribe, use the link at the bottom of this email.

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S4F NL sent a letter to universities and colleges urging them to bank sustainably

Project group: fossil-free-finance

On the 17th of January, members from Scientist-4-future sent a letter to all higher education institutions in the Netherlands to urge them to choose sustainable banks and insurers. In the letter, they state that an accelerated transition to a sustainable society is necessary and that knowledge institutions should play a leadership role in this. Universities and colleges should critically look at their banks and insurance companies and hold them accountable for their investment choices. You can find the letter and press release [here](#).

Several institutions have already positively responded to the letter, and are investigating steps to implement the recommendations that are made in the letter. Notably, on the 8th of February the HvA [publicly replied](#) to the letter:

"Together with the UvA, we have started preparing for a tender process for (house) banking. The starting point is that the bank should meet our sustainability criteria as much as possible" as written by the Board of Directors.

Please spread the word, discuss it in your own institution and help the cause!

Recap in-person meeting S4F January 2023

On January 21st, we met in person for the first time in more than two years! About twenty S4F members came together in Utrecht to enjoy a day of information, discussions, and socialising with a delicious mostly vegan potluck dinner. We had plenary discussions including the following topics:

- Communicating problems vs solutions
- Activism (and/or) / vs Science?
- Possible activities at conferences

We also exchanged ideas about best practices of S4F, which activities to prioritise, how to self-govern S4F and about our motivations to join S4F. We're planning to do more in-person meetings in the future.



The next one will happen sometime in May or June, in addition to our monthly national online meetings!

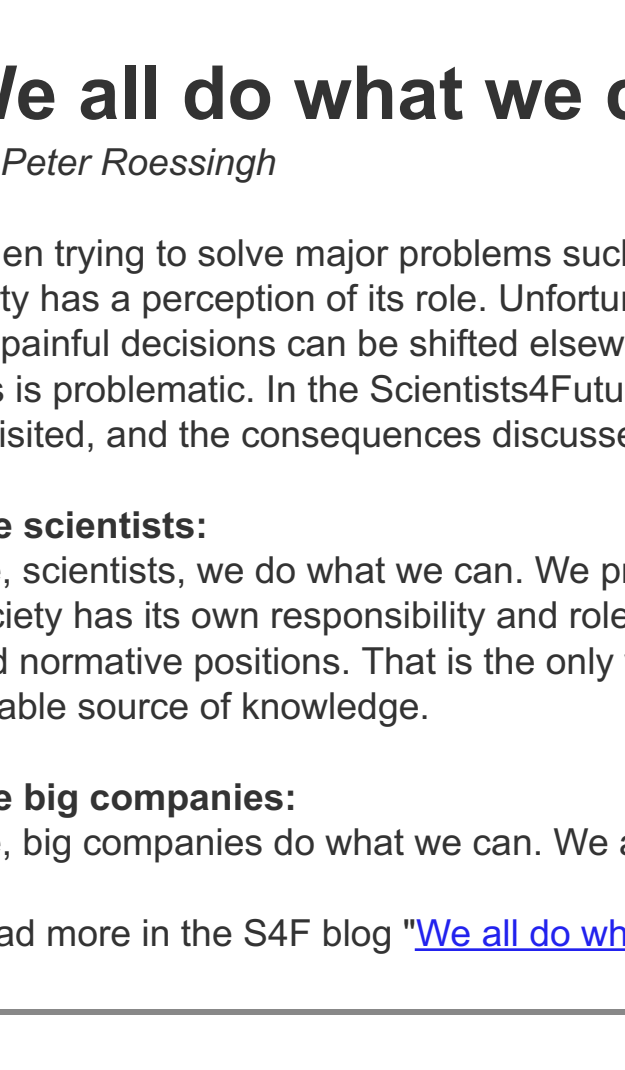
How to be an academic in a world on fire?

By Anne Urai & Clare Kelly

As scientists concerned about the climate crisis, we set out to rethink the role and goals of the university in tackling the 21st century's challenges. Inspired by Raworth's *Doughnut Economics*, we propose seven new ways to thinking - not only to help us think, but also to act.

Read the paper: Urai AE, Kelly C (2023) Rethinking academia in a time of climate crisis.

Join us for a discussion at Growing Up in Science Global on 11th of April on Zoom.... and let us know your thoughts!



We all do what we can

By Peter Roessingh

When trying to solve major problems such as the climate- and ecological crises, each involved party has a perception of its role. Unfortunately, safe positions are often taken, so responsibility for painful decisions can be shifted elsewhere. As the stage play *"De zaak Shiel"* also showed, this is problematic. In the Scientists4Future's blog *"We all do what we can"* those positions are revisited, and the consequences discussed, please find a prelude below.

The scientists:

We, scientists, we do what we can. We provide facts. We should do no more. Each group in society has its own responsibility and role. We publish the facts and distance us from opinions and normative positions. That is the only way to maintain our credibility as an impartial and reliable source of knowledge.

The big companies:

We, big companies do what we can. We are forced by law to...

Read more in the S4F blog ["We all do what we can"](#)

IPCC Reading Marathon @VU in Climate Crisis

by Julia Schaumburg (VU), on behalf of the organizers:

From Monday January 30, 9:00 until Friday February 3, 17:00, students, teachers, and employees of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam read from the [IPCC Working Group I Report](#). The goal of the action was to raise awareness about the scientific background of the climate crisis.

48 people participated in the reading that took place in the VU lobby, and countless others stopped by to listen, voice their concerns about the climate crisis, and express their willingness to contribute to further sustainability efforts and climate actions at VU. On Friday during lunch break, singer-songwriter and VU alumnus [Blue Dog](#) delighted the audience by performing a set of powerful, poignant songs from his album "Songs of the Anthropocene".

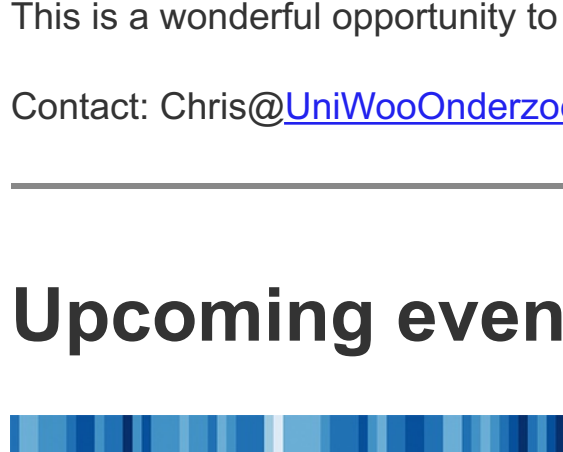
The VU community is currently in a dialogue on whether collaborations with the fossil industry should be ended.

A decision on the matter is expected for early April 2023.



Book review: The Best of Times, the Worst of Times by Paul Behrens

By Anne Urai



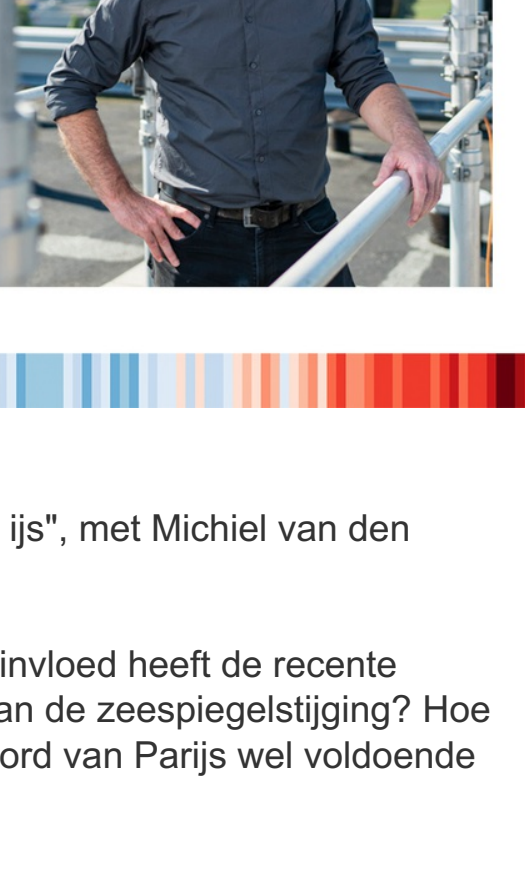
"An excellent, rich, well-written and thoroughly researched overview of our past, present and future on this planet. Highly recommended as a broad introduction on climate, energy, food, economics and politics - but also rich in detail for experts. Specifically, Behrens' book is filled with comparative calculations and illustrative examples that clarify the magnitudes, speeds and scopes that so often remain opaque in technical language (did you know the average European has 150 'energy dividends', the equivalent human power required to produce the power we use daily?). The form of contrasting pessimism chapters with optimism chapters, although sometimes blurred, is brilliant in the way that you think 'why didn't I think of that?'. This should go on the mandatory reading list for students, scholars and citizens of the planet alike."

You can find and/or buy the book [here](#)

De Luchtfietzers Waddenzee Cycle Tour

[DUTCH] Geef het Wad een stem! Drie weken fietsen van Texel naar Esbjerg Hou jij ook van het Wad? Maar maak je je zorgen over de toekomst van dit prachtige natuurgebied? Zit je graag op de fiets? Fiets dan van 1 tot 22 juli (een stuk) mee met de Luchtfietzers Waddentocht! Meer [informatie](#) & inschrijven.

[EN] Give the Wad a voice! Three weeks of cycling from Texel to Esbjerg Do you also love the Wad? But are you worried about the future of this beautiful nature reserve? Do you like to be on your bike? Then cycle (part of) the Luchtfietzers Waddentocht from July 1 to 22! More [information](#) & sign-up.



Gezocht: Studeer of werk je bij een universiteit? Heb jij affiniteit met WOO-verzoeken of bestuursrecht? Dan zoeken we jou!

[DUTCH] We zoeken ondersteuning (procesmanagement en communicatie) voor een nieuw project om de banden van universiteiten met olie-en-gasmaatschappijen te onderzoeken.

Op basis van een overzicht van bestaande subsidies of samenwerkingsverbanden willen wij de invloed van de fossiele industrie op onderzoek en onderwijs in kaart brengen. Wij zijn al in contact met andere partijen in NL die ook geïnteresseerd zijn (FossielVrijNL, UR UvA, Follow the Money). Onderzoek stellen wij een team samen van communicatiemanagers die verantwoordelijk zijn voor het contact met alle 13 universiteiten. Het plan is om wekelijks bij elkaar te komen (via Zoom) voor het opstellen, uitzetten, en opvolgen van de brieven.

Dit is een prachtige kans om je in te zetten voor een fossielvrije wetenschappelijke onderzoeksweld.

Do you study or work at a university? Do you have an affinity with WOO requests (open government law) or administrative law? Then we are looking for you!


[ENGLISH] We are looking for support (process management and communication) for a new project to investigate the links of universities with oil and gas companies.

Based on an overview of existing subsidies or partnerships, we want to map out the influence of the fossil fuel industry on research conducted at universities. We are already in contact with other parties in the Netherlands who are also interested in the matter (i.e., FossielVrijNL, UR UvA, Follow the Money). In the meantime, we are putting together a team of communication managers who are responsible for contact with all 13 universities. The plan is to meet weekly (via Zoom) to draw up, deploy and follow up on the letters.

This is a wonderful opportunity to commit yourself to a fossil-free scientific research world.

Contact: Chris@UniWooOnderzoek@proton.me

Upcoming events

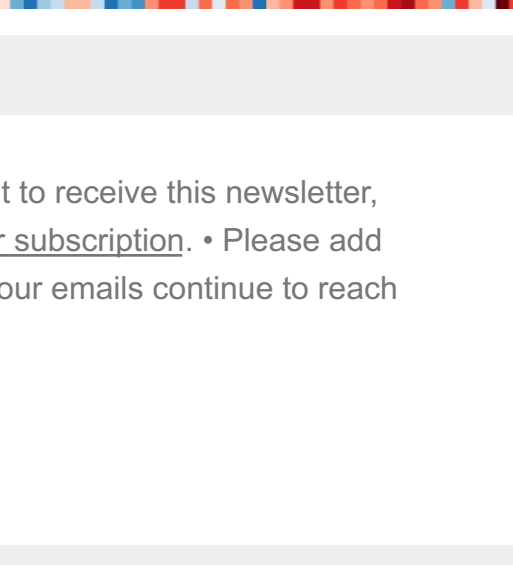


Kennismaken met Klimaatkunde
klimaatwetenschap voor iedereen

2. Het grote ijs

Michiel van den Broeke
polaire meteorologie, Universiteit Utrecht

dinsdag 21 feb – 16:00 (CET)



• **21st February:** [DUTCH SERIES] 16:00 - 17:00
S4F Webinar [Kennismaken met klimaatkunde deel 2](#): "Het grote ijs", met Michiel van den Broeke.

In deze lezing gaan we in op prangende vragen zoals: wat voor invloed heeft de recente opwarming op het smelten van de ijskappen en de versnelling van de zeespiegelstijging? Hoe zal zich dit in de toekomst ontwikkelen, en biedt het klimaatakkoord van Parijs wel voldoende soelaas?

• **22nd February:** 20:00 S4F National meeting

• **16th March:** 15:00 - 18:00

S4F Wageningen, CSPS and W*O*L*F* present:

Mapping fossil ties: Observing, understanding and problematizing the relationships between Dutch Universities and Big Oil.

This event is aimed at observing, understanding and problematizing the relationships between Dutch Universities and Big Oil. During the event we will render visible the current and past ties between Dutch Universities and fossil companies, like Shell. It aims to collect data on the different projects that are sponsored by the fossil industry or projects in which the fossil industry is involved.

Venue: Room Gaia 2 at Wageningen University

Would you like to come to help prepare this event? Contact the steering group, or send an e-mail to: scientists4future@wur.nl.

Local groups

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

[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](#)

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

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.

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