



Netherlands  
Water Partnership

# Annual Report 2024

**NWP is a strong network of Dutch water organisations, working worldwide on co-creating future-proof solutions and catalysing global water impact.**



# Opening statement

The year 2024 was a remarkable one for the Netherlands Water Partnership – a year of reflection, celebration, and looking forward. As we marked [25 years of NWP](#), we took the opportunity to look back on the many milestones our network has achieved, and used the learnings to review our strategy and to renew our shared commitment to strengthening the Dutch water sector's global impact. Our anniversary celebration at the beautiful De Oude Bibliotheek in Delft in November was a true highlight, bringing together members and partners from across the sector, celebrating not only our collective achievements but, more importantly, to envision the future of the global water sector.

In 2024, we also took an important step in [amplifying the voice of the Dutch water sector in the political and policy arenas](#). As the representative of our sector, NWP initiated a series of policy dialogues aimed at shaping national and international policy agendas to better reflect the needs, ambitions, and innovations of the water sector. The reflection of these dialogues in current policy are a testament to our growing influence and the strategic importance of our work, not just in projects, but in policymaking too.

We set out to keep our Annual Report concise, but the sheer volume of activities in 2024 took us by surprise! From international missions to hosting visiting delegations in the Netherlands, [the NWP team was on the move, pushing water up the global agenda and sparking vital conversations across sectors](#). While the climate challenges ahead remain daunting, our collective efforts, as individuals, organisations, and networks, are paving the way for impact, meaningful change and new opportunities.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to creating an enabling environment for our members to thrive, whether by opening doors abroad, facilitating knowledge exchange, or engaging in political advocacy. With climate, water, and development challenges continuing to grow in scale and complexity, [our role as connector, advocate, and enabler is more relevant than ever](#).

I would like to thank our members, our dedicated team, and all our partners for their continued support and engagement. It is your passion and collaboration that keeps this network strong. Together, we will continue to build bridges, influence change, and work towards a [Water.Driven.Future](#).

I wish you a lovely read!

Rick Elmendorp

Director and Chair Netherlands Water Partnership



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# 1. NWP's 25th Anniversary

NWP proudly celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2024. This milestone was marked with a festive gathering at the beautiful De Oude Bibliotheek (DOB, the Old Library) in Delft. It brought together members, partners, and sector stakeholders to reflect on past achievements and envision the future of the water sector.

The event's theme, [Envision the Evolution of the International Water Sector](#), focused on imagining what the water sector could look like in 2049 and how we might get there. Breakout sessions on Water & Finance, Water & Agri-Food, and Water & Climate sparked fresh insights and [cross-sector collaboration](#), with attendees stepping out of their comfort zones to explore new ways of shaping the sector's future. The event concluded with a networking reception, marking 25 years of NWP's impact and a shared commitment to a sustainable Water.Driven.Future.

Since its founding in 1998, NWP has grown into a strong network connecting the expertise of the Dutch water sector to global water challenges. The anniversary was not only a moment to reflect, but also to look forward. As global challenges grow, the water sector faces urgent tasks. The event underscored the importance of innovation, sustainability, and international collaboration, reaffirming that NWP and its members will continue to play a [pivotal role](#) in shaping a water-secure world for the next 25 years and beyond.







## 2. Member network

In 2024, NWP strengthened its member network, welcomed nine new members, and celebrated a major milestone – our 25th anniversary! This special occasion brought our members together to reflect on past achievements, exchange ideas, and envision the future of the international water sector.

Over the past year, it became clear once again that NWP is the first port of call for Dutch water organisations seeking business opportunities and global collaboration. Our members actively leveraged their [NWP membership](#) to expand their reach, share knowledge, and accelerate their impact worldwide.

Our members work across the entire water sector, tackling water management, water governance, flood prevention, engineering, reliable water supply, and safe drinking water & sanitation. NWP fosters a strong, inclusive network that [connects Dutch expertise with global water challenges](#). NWP's members include companies, government agencies, knowledge institutions, and NGOs.





## 2.1 Member activities

In 2024, NWP brought its comprehensive network of water professionals together on multiple occasions, fostering valuable connections and facilitating new opportunities. Through well-attended Member Meet-ups, tailored market insights, and enhanced online visibility, members actively benefited from their NWP membership, expanding their reach and impact in the global water sector.

NWP hosted a Member Meet-up every quarter, where we put our core philosophy – [Share, Connect, Involve](#) – into action. These gatherings were an excellent platform for members to engage with key industry leaders and influential officials, learn about the latest developments in the water sector, and take part in discussions with fellow professionals.

NWP continuously facilitated access to market knowledge and local contacts, helping members explore [new international opportunities](#).

One example was the [meet and greet with Panama Canal Authorities](#) where eight NWP members had the opportunity to exchange expertise and explore potential partnerships.

In 2024, NWP actively promoted its members online by sharing their corporate events, job vacancies, and water-related news. Members benefited from [increased visibility](#) through NWP's digital platforms, including social media and the internationally renowned [www.dutchwatersector.com](http://www.dutchwatersector.com) website. To keep members informed and engaged, NWP published nine exclusive 'Member Updates', sharing valuable information and sector developments. On the occasion of NWP's 25th Anniversary, we featured [four in-depth interviews](#) with longstanding members: Nelen & Schuurmans, IHE Delft, Royal Eijkelpkamp, and Witteveen + Bos. They reflected on the value of NWP membership and shared their vision of the future of the Dutch water sector.



In 2024, we were pleased to see many members using their [membership benefits](#) by reserving a meeting space or a workspace in our office for the day. This service, offered free of charge (subject to availability), has proven both practical and valuable. It also facilitates knowledge exchange and enables us to support our members wherever possible.

*I thoroughly enjoyed participating in the many networking activities organised by NWP. It continues to inspire me to discover so many innovative start-ups. NWP provides me a platform to highlight the numerous grant schemes relevant to the water sector. Thanks to NWP, I can share my knowledge and hopefully help secure funding for more great innovative projects."*

Nina Bresser – Senior Subsidy Advisor at Hezelburcht

## 2.2 NGO Water Platform

The NGO Water Platform is a dedicated forum for NGO members of the Netherlands Water Partnership to collaborate, exchange knowledge, and stay engaged on critical water-related themes and policies. Over the past year, the Platform has proven to be an effective driver of political engagement and partnership building in the Dutch water sector.

Twenty twenty-four was an eventful year for the Platform. [A new Chair](#), Jacob Jan Vreugdenhil from Woord en Daad, was appointed who brought much valuable experience in sustainable development and programme management to strengthen the Platform's strategic positioning. Hosting NGO platforms at different organisations ensured dynamic interaction.

The year's meetings were hosted by [Simavi \(March\)](#), focusing on climate adaptation and gender, Amref [Flying Doctors \(June\)](#), highlighting WASH and climate resilience, [with Dutch Water Envoy Meike van Ginneken](#), who engaged with members on the role of water in international policy and funding discussions, and [Deltares \(October\)](#), addressing water, conflict and stability and cooperation between NGOs and knowledge institutes. The final meeting [in December](#), organised with the Netherlands Enterprise Agency's (RVO) Water Support Programme (WSP), focused on [EU funding opportunities and international funding](#), while also reflecting on 2024's outcomes.



The NGO Platform played an [active advocacy role](#). Its policy group influenced national and European policies through [engaging with the BHOS](#) (Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation) parliamentary committee. Strategic lobbying letters were sent to various Dutch Members of Parliament and to Minister Klever, the Dutch Minister for Foreign Trade & Development, emphasising the importance of preserving Dutch water sector expertise and integrating water into development cooperation policies.



[“It’s about economic potential, knowledge exchange, stability, and security and it’s about the reliability of the Netherlands as a coherent partner. This is about our place in the world. Building on what we have already achieved.”](#)

Jacob Jan Vreugdenhil: Woord & Daad and Chair of the NGO Platform



### 3. Leading policy dialogues for a stronger water sector

With growing global challenges around water, climate, and sustainability, 2024 called for a strong and united voice from the Dutch water sector to stay firmly embedded in political agendas. In 2024, NWP took the lead in reinforcing the Dutch water sector's strategic position in national and international policy dialogue.

Acting on behalf of the Dutch water sector, NWP sent [an introductory letter](#) to the new Schoof Cabinet, which officially took office on 6 July 2024. We stressed the [vital role of water expertise in securing the Netherlands' safety, sustainability, and economic prosperity](#). NWP called on the Government to maintain and, where needed, strengthen policies that support the sector which are essential for both national prosperity and global resilience against climate, water security, and sustainable development challenges. [We reaffirmed the sector's commitment to close cooperation with the Government](#) and stressed the importance of continued collaboration.

NWP invited the Cabinet for further dialogue, leading to [a meeting with the Committee on Foreign Trade and Development Aid](#) in October to discuss national and international water policy in more detail.

During the session, Frank Goossensen (Arcadis), Margreet Zwarteveen (IHE Delft), and Jacob Jan Vreugdenhil (Woord & Daad, and Chair of the NGO Water Platform) delivered strong pitches, promoting the sector's economic potential, the importance of knowledge exchange, and the role of water cooperation in fostering stability.



In December, NWP and its Advisory Board, Topsector Water & Maritime, and a youth representative, convened [a high-level meeting](#) with Reinette Klever, the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development, and senior representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Prompted by [the Minister's invitation](#), the dialogue focused on the future of development aid for water management as part of the wider Dutch foreign policy, ahead of a Cabinet policy letter on development aid. Minister Klever emphasised the importance of international water cooperation and called for maximum impact with limited resources while showcasing the unique strengths of the Dutch water sector.



The meeting [brought together key figures from the private sector, civil society, and academia](#), including Toine Ramaker (VEI), Johannes Boonstra (Wetsus), Anne Loes Nillesen (Defacto Urbanism, TU Delft), Lisa Brand (LG Sonic), Michel Riemersma (Royal HaskoningDHV), Jacob Jan Vreugdenhil (Woord & Daad), Marieke van Nood (Dutch Water Authorities),

Henk Nieboer (Adaelta, NWP), youth representative Dorien Lugt (HKV), Frank Goossensen (Topsector Water & Maritime, Arcadis), and Rick Elmendorp (NWP).

Representatives of the Dutch water sector emphasised the urgency of sustainable and innovative solutions as climate change, population growth, and urbanisation put increasing pressure on global water resources. They made clear recommendations, including better policy alignment, a targeted focus on priority countries, and improved access to international funding. The sector stressed the importance of integrated collaboration and of positioning water as a connecting theme in climate, migration, and economic policies. [This dialogue marked an important step towards a renewed development strategy](#), ensuring Dutch water expertise remains central to global progress.

*“International water collaboration is a cornerstone of our foreign and trade policy. Together, we must innovate to achieve the greatest possible impact with fewer resources while showcasing the unique strengths of the Dutch water sector.”*

[Minister Reinette Klever Minister of Foreign Trade and Development Aid](#)

### NIWA stakeholder consultation

These high-level engagements with the new Cabinet and senior policymakers were complemented by broader stakeholder involvement through [the Netherlands International Water Ambition \(NIWA\)](#). NWP and our partner Water Alliance, moderated the meeting. These combined efforts underscore the sector’s commitment to shaping a coherent and impactful international water strategy.

During the stakeholder consultation, experts and professionals from the private sector and knowledge institutions took part in two roundtable discussions. They shared experiences, evaluated progress to date, and explored options to define future goals. The conclusions from the roundtable discussions were shared with the Interdepartmental Water Cluster (IWC) steering group, within which the collaborating ministries are represented and work on the implementation of the NIWA.

*‘Increasing water security for more than a hundred million people worldwide by 2030’*. This is NIWA’s goal that four Dutch ministries – Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy, and Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality – established in 2019.





## 4. Cross-sectoral collaboration and development

The Netherlands has a strong tradition of sharing knowledge and driving innovation by uniting diverse perspectives. NWP supports the Dutch water sector by expanding its international influence through enhanced cross-sector collaboration.

In 2024, NWP increasingly focused on the vital connections between water and other sectors such as climate, agriculture, and the economy. This shift is fostering partnerships that transcend traditional water management boundaries. For example, NWP now works with various partners on platforms for

climate-resilient cities, sustainable food systems, and addressing salinisation. The goal is to [create integrated policies that unite sectors](#), from landscape architecture to finance, thus ensuring that the critical role of water is recognised in all areas.



## 4.1 Kenya Innovative Finance Facility for Water

The Kenya Innovative Finance Facility for Water (KIFFWA) is a co-developer of water initiatives in Kenya. Initiated and managed by NWP with the support of the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Kenya since 2017, KIFFWA's mission is to catalyse investment on climate-resilient water initiatives by providing financial and technical support.

Last year was a special year in which KIFFWA became officially autonomous, working closely with the Dutch Embassy in Nairobi. NWP is also still closely involved with KIFFWA as the link to the Dutch water sector and as manager of the Board Secretariat. At the end of 2024, as Rick Elmendorp stepped down, the Board of the KIFFWA Foundation welcomed two new members to the Board of Directors. [Rob Winters](#), Managing Director of Rebel East Africa and [Catherine Kola](#), previously a member of the KIFFWA Advisory Board, joined the board to support KIFFWA with their expertise. In 2024 the Board of Directors convened six times. During KIFFWA's visit to the Netherlands in June, the Board met with Cardano Development and NWP members VEI and Unie van Waterschappen. The visits were used to discuss strategic partnerships, long-term planning and, of course, to connect with the Dutch water sector.

KIFFWA aims to develop and support projects and businesses, and enable them to attract private financing. One of last year's key successes was the signing of a three year revolving credit facility to support HydroBox in developing seven new sites with small run-of-the-river hydropower plants.



Another highlight was the signing of a pivotal Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Netherlands Enterprise Agency, the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Kenya, Nakuru County Government, and the Ministry of Water, Sanitation, and Irrigation (MoWSI) in September to launch the Water as Leverage Nakuru (WAL Nakuru): For a Resilient Sponge City programme in which KIFFWA and Invest International are key enablers.

KIFFWA invests not only in water projects, but also in its human capital. Leading by example, KIFFWA joined YEP Programmes, stimulating the further growth of a young expert in its management team.

KIFFWA is developing several strategic partnerships to scale its impact as an autonomous investment fund and ensure future project development.



## 4.2 Nutrient Platform

The [Nutrient Platform \(NP\)](#) is a cross-sector network of companies, knowledge and research institutes, and Dutch government bodies (ministries and water authorities), that cooperate on closing the nutrient cycles in the Netherlands by creating a market for recycled nutrients. Recycled nutrients from municipal or industrial wastewater for example can replace those in fertilisers or other products containing nutrients like phosphorus, nitrogen or potassium. This is important not only to meet EU and national goals for circularity in 2030 and 2050, but also because phosphorus and phosphorus minerals are on the list of EU critical raw materials. The NP's Secretariat is funded through a separate membership and is hosted by NWP.

The Nutrient Platform is one of the consortium leaders of the [KNAP Project](#), which implements and researches nutrient recycling cases and is working on a quality system for nutrients. One of the highlights in 2024 for the KNAP Project was the field trial where potatoes were grown on different recycled fertilisers. This trial got [national media attention on NOS news](#) (Dutch only).

The fifth European Sustainable Phosphorus Conference (ESPC) was held in 2024. [The Nutrient](#)

[Platform](#), the founding father of the [European Sustainable Phosphorus Platform](#), presented the latest Dutch developments to the wider European sector, and NWP members WUR and SNB presented their latest research and projects on nutrient recycling.

During NP Member Meet-ups, the members visited new projects, discussed the implementation of new water quality regulations and worked on creating new road maps for nutrients in their specific sectors.



## 4.3 Saline Water & Food Systems Partnership

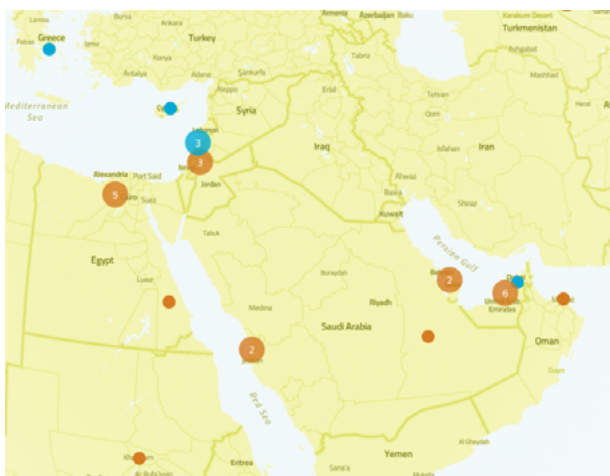
The Saline Water & Food Systems (SW&FS) Partnership is a multi-stakeholder partnership that fosters collaboration between the Dutch water and agrifood sectors to tackle salinity challenges in Low and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs). Convened by NWP and the Netherlands Food Partnership, the initiative was launched in March 2022. The partnership brings together around 20 active partners, including innovative SMEs, knowledge institutes, governmental bodies, NGOs, and experts working on the ground to develop sustainable solutions for salinity issues abroad.

In April, the SW&FS Partnership organised a well-attended side event on saline agriculture as part of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)'s event entitled: [Towards a High-Level Dialogue on the Global Framework on Water Scarcity in Agriculture \(WASAG\)](#).

The side event, held at the FAO headquarters in Rome, featured discussions with countries facing salinity challenges, with contributions from delegations from Cabo Verde, Egypt and Senegal. It aimed to stimulate policy dialogue and covered current practices on salinity and saline agriculture. The side-event was in preparation for the High-Level Dialogue on WASAG at the World Food Forum in October 2024.

During the side event, two notable knowledge products were presented.

- [The Saline Agri Map](#), an online platform that presents saline agriculture projects worldwide.
- [The first edition of the 'Salinity Magazine'](#), an informative publication featuring a blend of captivating articles and expert perspectives. The magazine was handed over by Ambassador Marcel Beukeboom, Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the Rome Agencies, to Dr Lifeng Li, Director of the FAO Land and Water Division.





In May, as part of efforts to stimulate policy dialogue on and the practical implementation of salinity and saline agriculture, [NWP and NFP \(Netherlands Food Partnership\) became partners of WASAG](#), a partnership hosted by the FAO. WASAG leads FAO's global efforts in addressing salinity challenges. WASAG's objective is to jointly promote the topic of salinity and saline agriculture across science, policy, and practice.

*"Through the partnership between WASAG and the SW&FS Partnership, we are extending and deepening the longstanding cooperation between the Netherlands and FAO. We look forward to mutual knowledge exchange on salinity and saline agriculture."*

Jean Ruhiza Boroto, Senior Land and Water Officer at FAO and WASAG Team Lead

In June, the SW&FS Partnership launched a call for proposals to [support Seed Money projects](#) on salinity. The 2024 Seed Money Facility supported initiatives that help the partnership achieve its goal of strengthening cooperation between the Dutch water and agrifood sectors to address salinity challenges in LMICs. The Facility also encourages activities that stimulate financing initiatives proposed by partnership members and their partners abroad. The project consortia [presented their initial findings](#) in 2024.

Following a thorough external review, three salinity-related projects were awarded funding:

**In Bangladesh:** Resilient Roots – Leveraging Indigenous Practices for Salinity Adaptation in Southern Bangladesh, implemented by the Centre for People and Environ, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU Amsterdam), and Krisoker Sor (Farmers' Voice).



**In Mozambique:** The Agroforestry Interventions and Training for Salt-affected Soils project, carried out by a consortium including ASSAMBA, ABIODES, Eduardo Mondlane University, Mozambique Institute of Agricultural Research, Weltweit e.V., The Salt Doctors, and Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam.



**In Senegal:** The Integrated Soil Management for Rice-based Cropping Systems (ISSM4RICE) project led by AfricaRice and MetaMeta explored salinity-affected rice cultivation.



Several international organisations united in a joint appeal to [declare 2028 the Year of Saline Agriculture](#), supported by a compelling video. [The video](#) highlights the potential of saline agriculture in salt-affected areas, showcasing its resilience to climate challenges and its role in sustainable food production and healthy ecosystems. Featuring farmer testimonials and examples of government interventions, it aims to raise public awareness and support for the initiative.

At [NFP World Food Day](#) in Amersfoort, the SW&FS Partnership and VU Amsterdam hosted a side event entitled Tasting the Future: Exploring the Role of Salt-Tolerant Crops in Sustainable Food Systems. In a dynamic panel discussion, experts from Van Hall Larenstein, Salt Doctors, and Wageningen University shared insights on [how salt-tolerant crops can transform agriculture](#) in marginal environments, reduce climate risks, and help create more sustainable global food systems. The session concluded with a tasting of snacks made from local, salt-tolerant ingredients, specially prepared by Flang in de Pan, a cookery studio on the Dutch island of Terschelling.





## 4.4 Water cooperation with Oman

The Sultanate of Oman is facing severe challenges in the field of water management and the Netherlands, well known for its water expertise, is cooperating with the Omani Government to help address them. The Oman Netherlands Taskforce on Water was established in 2017. Since then, there have been numerous successful follow-up meetings and exchanges of ideas and recommendations. There were two main events, organised in Muscat; The Oman Water Week and the Oman Sustainability Week.

The first [Oman Water Week](#) took place in Muscat, Oman, from 22 to 24 January. The conference focussed on how Oman can transform its water sector to become more resilient, sustainable, flexible, and efficient. NWP and the Netherlands Embassy in Muscat jointly organised the Dutch water sector representation, facilitating speaking engagements. No less than [three cooperation agreements were signed](#) between various Dutch organisations and stakeholders in the water sector in Oman.



Three months after the Oman Water Week, [the Oman Sustainability Week](#) took place with a [Netherlands Pavilion](#) with 14 Dutch companies working on sustainability in various fields. The Dutch water sector was well represented. Together with the Netherlands Embassy in Oman, [NWP hosted 12 Sustainability Talks](#)

on Dutch Innovations. In general, the Oman Sustainability Week 2024 strengthened the ties between the Dutch water and energy sector and their Omani counterparts, laying the groundwork for continued collaboration towards a more sustainable future.



In the second half of 2024 we continued our collaboration through the [Strategic Water Taskforce](#) in partnership with the Netherlands Embassy in Oman.

The visit of representatives of the Embassy of the Sultanate of Oman to The Hague for NWP's 25th anniversary celebration marked [the establishment of a new connection](#) that is accelerating the water cooperation with Nama and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources in Oman.

## 4.5 TKI Water Technology

TKI, or the Top Consortia for Knowledge and Innovation, is a visionary initiative designed to strengthen the Dutch water and maritime top sector. TKI Water Technology brings together companies, research organisations, and the Government to turn water innovations into practical solutions. With the right consortium, TKI offers co-funding for various types of research. In 2024, TKI, managed by NWP and Water Alliance, held matchmaking events that led to valuable collaborations.

### Activities

#### Aqua Nederland

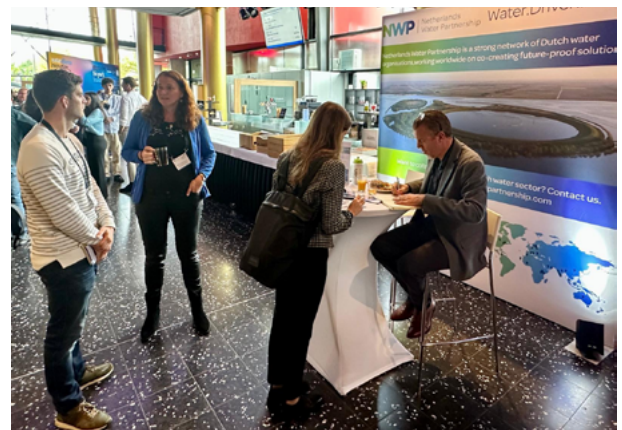
In March 2024, during [Aqua Nederland](#) in Gorinchem, the TKI Water Technology Programme actively engaged with attendees. TKI hosted [daily knowledge sessions](#) at the Water Theatre, sharing information on water technology advancements. The Programme also hosted a [networking dinner](#) with live music, providing a platform for professionals to connect. In addition, at the Aqua Business Lounge, TKI offered [consultation sessions](#) on financing opportunities for innovators.



#### European Water Technology Week

The TKI Water Technology team was actively involved in the [European Water Technology Week 2024](#) (EWTW) at WaterCampus Leeuwarden, engaging with visitors to discuss how they could financially support innovative water technologies. A key highlight was the [TKI Water Technology TechTalk](#), chaired by NWP's Arjan Braamskamp, which explored the impact of Artificial Intelligence on the future of water infra-

structure. NWP members from Royal HaskoningDHV and Hulo shared their insights on how AI and machine learning are revolutionising the sector, improving efficiency, optimising resources, and enabling data-driven decisions. During the event, Radiofabriek recorded an engaging [podcast](#).



#### First TKI Water Technology Day

On 19 November 2024, the very first [TKI Water Technology Day](#) was held at KWR's Water Research Institute in Nieuwegein. The event brought together experts, researchers, and businesses to share knowledge, promote innovation, and foster new collaborations. The programme featured presentations on innovative projects such as the KNAP Project, Water Circular Nieuwegein City, HerCauWer, Shark Skin for Drag Reduction, and Urban Photosynthesis. Attendees appreciated the event's interactive format, engaging in discussions, networking, and matchmaking sessions, as well as a guided tour of KWR's research facilities. [A podcast series](#) recorded during the event featured interviews on turning early-stage ideas into market-



ready solutions. With themes like circularity, climate adaptation, and biodiversity, the day laid a strong foundation for future events. As one attendee noted, “It was well organised, and I gained many valuable insights.”



### Investor Readiness Programme 2024

The Investor Readiness Programme (IRP) supports Dutch entrepreneurs – both start-ups and scale-ups – in the water sector by helping them put together concrete and informed financing proposals to increase their chances of securing investment. In addition, the IRP expands the firms’ opportunities to connect with relevant investors.

As the only nationwide water specific programme, the IRP channels valuable investment opportunities to both national and international financiers. After achieving success in 2021 and 2022, the Programme started operations in the first quarter of 2024, further strengthening the investor preparedness of seven Dutch SMEs.

The SMEs were selected from different provinces in the Netherlands and were united by their shared complex challenge of preparing for and connecting to water-focused investors.

The Investor Readiness Programme included three core activities:

- [two-day masterclasses](#) to familiarise participants with the financial landscape available to Dutch water technology start-ups and scale-ups, and review key topics such as equity and negotiation

strategies;

- [1-on-1 guidance](#) to hone participants’ pitching skills; and,
- a [pitch event](#) to a group of financiers, including impact investors and venture capital funds.



Check NWP’s website to read about impactful [TKI Water Technology consortium projects](#) that showcase how TKI supports the development of innovative water technologies, from [reducing water consumption in mining](#) to [creating plastic alternatives from organic waste](#). [Explore these stories](#).

“Efforts to promote TKI Water Technology in 2024 resulted in a multitude of partnerships between public, private, and knowledge institutions, which helped drive the Dutch water technology sector towards a brighter, more sustainable future. Several examples are described on the news page of the NWP website.”

Arjan Braamskamp, NWP Team Lead Business Relations

## 4.6 Top Sector Water and Maritime

NWP has been delivering comprehensive Secretariat services to the international Top Sector Water and Maritime (TSWM) core team for the past 10 years, significantly boosting the Netherlands' global industry presence.

Through strategic trade missions, international trade fairs, and targeted initiatives, NWP has played a pivotal role in promoting the export potential and business opportunities of the Dutch water and maritime sectors on the world stage. In addition, several project proposals exploring new market-sector combinations were developed, as well as a coordinating and endorsing role in the research project 'Vergroenen van de Noordzee – Groen Varen voor Offshore Wind'. In 2024, this momentum continued, building on the

successes of previous years and further strengthening the Netherlands' leadership position in global water and maritime innovation.

As part of the Strategic Trade Fair Programme and the Excellent Promotion Programme, financial instruments of the Government of the Netherlands to promote industrial sectors, NWP facilitated valuable opportunities for the Dutch water sector to enhance its global influence and competitiveness.

**Let's take a look.**

### IFAT Munich

A Netherlands Pavilion at IFAT Munich was made available in collaboration with Water Alliance, hosting [23 exhibiting organisations and an overall crew of 60 people](#). For a week, the Dutch delegation at the Pavilion had plenty of opportunities to exchange information about their technologies, discuss potential collaboration and forge business relationships. [Read more.](#)



### Saudi Agriculture

Together with Dutch Green House Delta and the Netherlands Embassy in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, NWP coordinated and hosted a [mission programme on the water and agriculture nexus](#) on the occasion of Saudi Agriculture, the biggest international B2B exhibition for agriculture, food, aquaculture, packaging and the agro-industry in the region. [Read more.](#)





### World Water Congress and Exhibition Toronto

The Dutch presence at the International Water Association's World Water Congress and Exhibition was also led by NWP, in close collaboration with the Netherlands Embassy and Consulates-General in Canada. NWP organised a [delegation programme](#) that included a [Business Forum](#) seminar focused on knowledge exchange, featuring presentations about Dutch innovative solutions and a keynote on the Netherlands' water goals by Meike van Ginneken, Dutch Water Envoy. Additionally, a [Netherlands Lounge](#) arranged by NWP and co-hosted by Water Alliance highlighted the expertise of various organisations and served as a dynamic space for networking with global counterparts. [Read more.](#)



### Arrangements for 2025 events

Also in 2024, NWP conducted some activities aimed at optimising the participation of Dutch organisations at [Aquatech Amsterdam](#) and [Oman Water Week](#), both to take place in 2025. NWP conducted the preliminary work in arranging a mission programme for international delegations visiting Aquatech Amsterdam and interested in connecting with the Dutch water sector. This led to more than 20 countries and regions relying on NWP for a bespoke experience at the trade fair. For Oman Water Week, NWP started the necessary preparation activities for a trade mission consisting of a Netherlands Pavilion in combination with speaking engagements for the exhibitors, networking opportunities, and collective matchmaking.



### IFAT India

At IFAT India, NWP supported the Netherlands Consulate in Mumbai with a [three-day programme](#) that included speaking opportunities, onsite matchmaking, and trade tours. The highlight of the programme was a [panel discussion on 'How the India-Netherlands collaboration is shaping sustainable water solutions'](#). Moderated by NWP, Dutch organisations discussed the scalability and adaptability of solutions across India and explored effective collaboration with Indian companies on water management. [Read more.](#)



### Other activities

As in previous years, NWP was deeply involved in the publication of the annual [Water Sector Export Index \(WEX\) report](#). The WEX is an indicator that shows the annual export trends in the Dutch water sector. It specifically covers the delta management and the water technology sectors. The 'Water Sector Export Index 1995-2022, prognosis 2023' gives new and more definitive figures for 2022, the preliminary figures for 2023, and the forecast for 2024. [Read more.](#)

Alongside this, NWP [hosted the international core team meetings](#) as part of its Secretariat services, and [leveraged its prominent Dutchwatersector.com website](#) to showcase the Dutch water sector's global initiatives, innovative projects, and international collaborations.

## 4.7 Ukraine Water Public-Private Partnership Platform

The Ukraine Water Public-Private Partnership (UWP3) Platform is a vital coordination hub for Dutch and Ukrainian stakeholders in the public, private, knowledge, and NGO sectors to find sustainable and resilient water solutions for Ukraine. The Platform, established in 2022, is an initiative of the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO) and was commissioned by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs under which the Embassy of the Netherlands in Kyiv falls. NWP acts as the Platform Coordinator and Facilitator.

In 2024, UWP3 evolved into a committed group of over 40 members, including nine government institutions. The Platform's four specialised clusters – Water for Food, Water Supply and Quality Restoration, Master Planning, and the Kakhovka Dam Area Reconstruction – [initiated over a dozen project proposals](#), many of which are actively being shaped and are seeking funding partners.

Key events in 2024 strengthened partnerships and engagement. In June, representatives of Ukrhydro-energo, Ukraine's largest state-owned hydropower company, visited the Netherlands, engaging with Dutch experts on [critical infrastructure planning and programming, resilience and reconstruction](#). A Meet & Greet lunch at NWP deepened Dutch-Ukrainian cooperation.

In [November](#), the newly appointed Water Envoy to Ukraine, Erica Schouten, met with Platform spokespersons and was updated on several initiatives undertaken by the Platform's water clusters. In turn, the Envoy shared information with the organisations and emphasised the importance of opportunities for Dutch expertise in aligning with Ukraine's needs. She also supported engaging with international financial institutions that finance water initiatives in Ukraine.

A significant milestone was the signing of a [Memorandum of Understanding \(MoU\)](#) between the European Benchmarking Co-operation (EBC), the Ukrainian Ukrvodokanalokologiya association, the Bavarian Environment Agency, and the Gdansk Water Foundation. The MoU supports Ukrainian water utilities in strengthening their performance and capacity for long-term resilience.





## 4.8 Water Action Agenda

Fifteen months after the launch of the Water Action Agenda (WAA) at the UN 2023 Water Conference in New York, the Government of the Netherlands – represented by the Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs – and NWP came together to advance the Dutch contribution to the WAA. This collaboration highlighted the progress made by the Netherlands and supported the Dutch organisations leading the way.

Comprehensive desk research and a cross-section analysis of the WAA commitments listed on the official WAA website, revealed [valuable information on the Netherlands' involvement](#) – both as lead and/or partner – in nearly 150 WAA commitments. This process generated a clear picture of the Netherlands' role. To further deepen understanding, a questionnaire was conducted among the Dutch organisations involved to gather information on the status of their commitments and the support they may require to successfully achieve their commitments in the future.

Drawing on the information gathered, several Dutch-led commitments that have yielded positive results were highlighted in two articles [published on the Dutchwatersector.com website](#). The [first article](#) covers four commitments to strengthen global water management through capacity building and knowledge sharing in areas such as water education, data access, and gender inclusivity in the water sector. The [second article](#) describes three key initiatives towards climate-adaptive utilities, circular water solutions in urban areas, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) education in underserved regions. The commitments expressed in both articles show the diversity of Dutch stakeholders – from government bodies to NGOs, knowledge institutes, and private enterprises.

Later in the year, [NWP hosted a session to gauge interest among Dutch organisations involved in WAA commitments](#) to create a Learning & Action Network that would facilitate experience sharing and



promote the implementation of these commitments. Approximately 25 organisations working on the WAA commitments took part. They shared updates on their progress, discussed the challenges, and explored further steps to secure global water supply.

During the session, the participants brainstormed on ideas for the Learning & Action Network, emphasising the importance of collaboration and sharing best practices among Dutch stakeholders. There was also a strong focus on the need for improved monitoring processes and clearer progress indicators.

At the end of 2024, [NWP submitted an action plan for 2025 and 2026](#) within the framework of the WAA. This plan outlines collective activities designed to help Dutch organisations advance their commitments in the run-up to the 2026 Conference. The proposed activities are currently under review, and NWP is awaiting confirmation on the next steps and potential follow-up.

## 5. Knowledge exchange and development

NWP is actively involved in developing and sharing knowledge that benefits the wider water sector in the Netherlands and abroad, creating a strong foundation for further collaboration. Since its founding, NWP has partnered with both public and private sector organisations in the Netherlands and internationally. We work closely with Dutch ministries, embassies, and other governmental bodies to manage and implement large and medium-sized subsidy programmes that strengthen the Dutch water sector.

A key example is the [Young Experts Programme \(YEP Programmes\)](#) which enables young professionals to gain international experience through Dutch organisations.

Government institutions abroad, such as embassies, regularly turn to NWP for support in organising missions, knowledge exchange, matchmaking, and conducting market scans.





## 5.1 Young Expert Programmes

The Young Expert Programmes (YEP Programmes) is jointly carried out by NWP, the Netherlands Food Partnership and the Netherlands Enterprise Agency. As the lead agency, 2024 brought both sweet and sour moments for NWP. With Phase II concluding in 2025, 2024 marked the final year for certain components of this Phase. In parallel to the regular work, we also expanded our discussions and lobbying activities for the potential continuation of the Programmes through a Phase III. Let's take a look at some of the key highlights from last year.

### Capacity building

In April 2024, we welcomed the final cohort of YEP Phase II young people. Batch 32, comprising 28 enthusiastic Young Experts, began its journey in helping make a global impact on the water, agrifood, and renewable energy sectors from locations across Colombia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Liberia, Mozambique, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Rwanda, Senegal, and Uganda. We also hosted batches 28, 29, 30, and 31 during their respective training sessions.



As part of the YEP Tailor-made Programme, which operates outside of Phase II, three new batches began their bespoke training programmes in collaboration with our partners: the [Asian Development Bank \(ADB\)](#), [Blue Deal](#), and [WaterWorX](#).

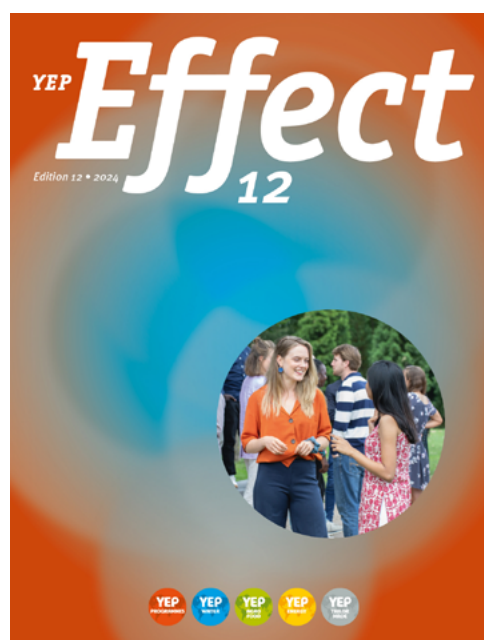
Work also went into the publication of the [thirteenth edition](#) in January 2025, which delves into YEP Programmes' role in supporting economic growth and innovation across the water, agrofood and renewable energy sectors.



### YEP Effect

YEP Programmes also released the twelfth edition of its magazine, 'YEP Effect', that tells the stories of Young Experts, alumni, and partner organisations working on Sustainable Development Goal 13 – Climate Action. Its highlights included innovations for climate resilience, integrating disaster risk reduction and climate action, empowering rural communities with solar energy, and fostering green skills for sustainable development.

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



### International exposure

As part of its presence on global stages, YEP Programmes hosted a session at [World Water Week](#) in Sweden, highlighting the value of investing in youth. Vincent Cornelissen, Programme Manager of YEP Programmes, discussed the added value of both YEP Programmes and NWP's YEP Tailor-made alongside YEP alumni Sandra van Soelen (Simavi) and Tanya Huizer (ADB). Frodo van Oostveen, CEO of World Waternet, shared an organisational perspective, and two YEP Tailor-made Young Experts (batch WaterWorX3), Lulit Negash and Amos Mwakikunga, shared video messages.

The discussion focused on the importance and long-term benefits of investing in youth through training and coaching, emphasising that investments like this are sustainable. The discussion's conclusion was that [both YEP Programmes and YEP Tailor-made serve as a springboard and safety net for young people, allowing them to grow and experience new opportunities.](#)

In 2024, we were thrilled to share the results of the YEP Phase II evaluation.

[Organisations that employed Young Experts during Phase II rated the Programmes a remarkable 8.6 out of 10, while alumni gave YEP Programmes an impressive 8.8!](#)

As the year came to a close, discussions around the future of the YEP Programmes continued. While a final decision is yet to be made, we remain optimistic. With 11 years of successful operation and nearly 1,000 Young Experts trained, we are confident that the YEP Programmes can continue to empower the leaders of tomorrow and drive positive impact in the years to come.

Stay tuned for updates on the future of the YEP Programmes through [yepprogrammes.com](https://yepprogrammes.com).





## 5.2 Market intelligence

NWP actively shares market intelligence through market scans, magazines, podcasts and webinar series that support the Dutch and international water sector. Many of these reports are commissioned by third parties, including Dutch Embassies, which have repeatedly entrusted NWP with water-related market studies and follow-up activities. Here's some examples:

### 5.2.1 Salinity Magazine

The first edition of the '[Salinity Magazine](#)' marked a milestone in the global discourse on saline agriculture. It was released on the occasion of a high-level event entitled Towards a High-Level Dialogue on the Global Framework on Water Scarcity in Agriculture at the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) headquarters in Rome. The magazine was created and published by the SW&FS Partnership, which was convened by the Netherlands Water Partnership and the Netherlands Food Partnership. A hard copy version of the first 'Salinity Magazine' was presented to Dr Lifeng Li, Director of the FAO Land and Water Division, by Ambassador Marcel Beukeboom, Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the Rome Agencies.



The magazine highlights the work being done by various organisations, including Wageningen University and Research (WUR), in addressing the challenges

posed by salinity. It emphasises the importance of collaboration, knowledge sharing, and sustainable practices in mitigating the impact of salinity on food security, climate change, and water resources. It highlights the complex [relationship between salinity, water security, and food production](#) – issues exacerbated by climate change – and stresses that while technology plays a critical role, a holistic approach incorporating natural water buffers, spatial planning, and cross-sector collaboration is essential.

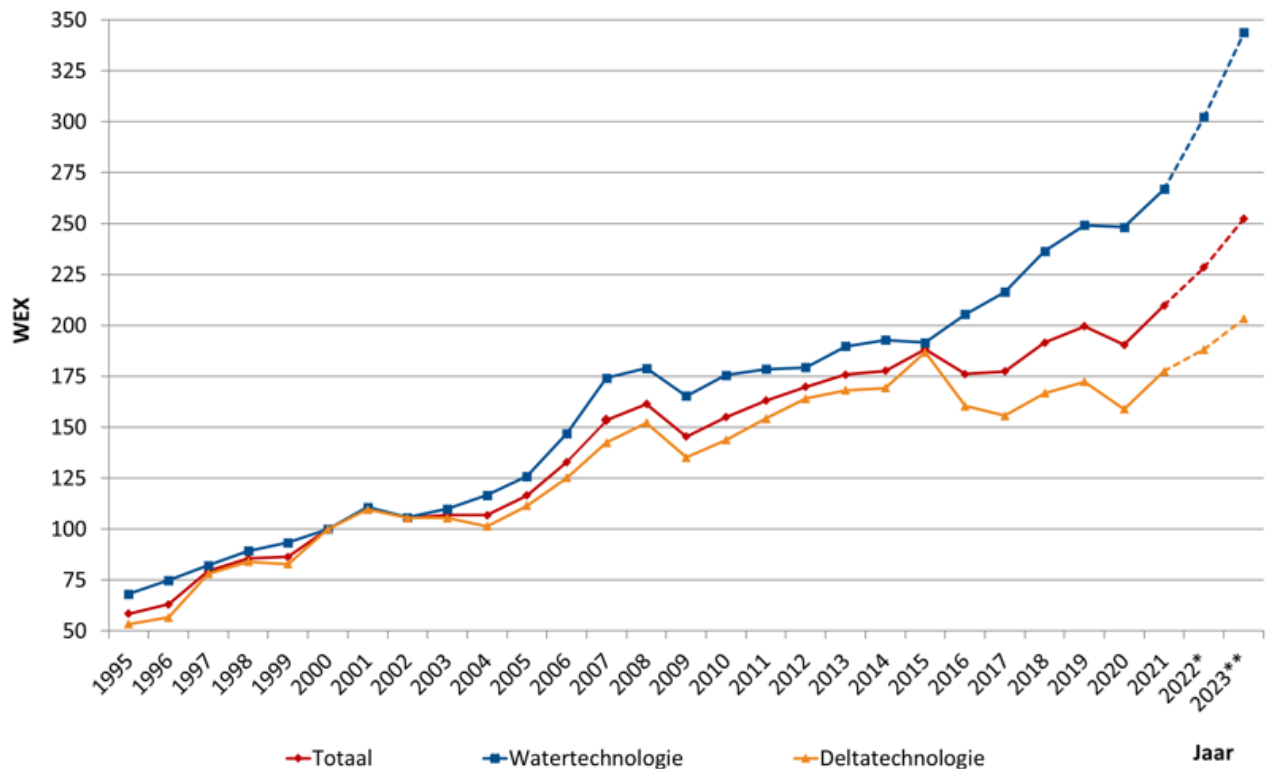
*'The genesis of the 'Salinity Magazine' is a shared recognition of the urgent need to address the complex interplay between salinity, water security, and food production.'*

Meike van Ginneken, Water Envoy of the Netherlands

### 5.2.2 Water Sector Export Index (WEX) Report 1995–2022, Prognosis 2023

The [Water Sector Export Index \(WEX\)](#) measures the progress of the water sector's exports, made up of the water technology and delta technology sub-sectors. The WEX report was compiled by Panteia and commissioned by the Netherlands Water Partnership in partnership with Water Alliance and the Top Sector Water & Maritime. The Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management financed the report.

## The Water Sector Export Index (WEX) for the period 1995-2023 (2000=100)



The report also included the preliminary figures of 2023 and the forecast for 2024. The gross added value of the sector – the income earned through the production of goods and the delivery of services – is estimated at [around EUR 12 billion for 2023](#). Companies featured in the WEX survey were optimistic about the market. Two out of three companies expected an [increase in international turnover in 2024](#).

### 5.2.3 Australia Market Scan 2024

In 2024, [NWP carried out the Australia market scan](#) at the request of the Consulate-General of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Sydney. The scan was conducted in collaboration with the University of New South Wales and its goal was to produce a [detailed overview of the Australian water sector's challenges and the opportunities](#) that these may present to the Netherlands.

Among the findings, the scan showed that [advancing agriculture and horticulture](#), as well as addressing [water scarcity and flood challenges](#), are two areas of significant demand in Australia. These needs align with the Dutch water sector's renowned expertise and innovation.

### 5.2.4 Webinar series: Advancing solutions for water-related challenges in Latin America together 2024

#### LATAM Webinar Series

[Advancing Solutions for Water-related Challenges in Latin America](#) was the subject of the LATAM Webinars, a webinar series initiated by NWP and a consortium of seven Dutch embassies in Latin America.

The LATAM Webinars started in 2020 during the Covid-19 pandemic to highlight the importance of water for human health and well-being. In 2024, a new series dedicated to Prevention, Mitigation and



Adaptation Approaches Against Climate Emergencies attracted over 500 registrations.

### Nature-based Solutions (NbS)

As successful NbS examples gain wider recognition among governments and infrastructure financiers, they create valuable opportunities for Latin American water professionals to adopt and integrate these solutions in their strategies. The first webinar in the series covered applying NbS to reduce the effects of and build resilience to climate emergencies such as floods, heat stress, sanitation crises, and biodiversity loss.

### Emergency Management

The consequences of climate change are becoming increasingly evident worldwide, and the weather events are becoming more extreme. This is resulting in climate change-related disasters that often affect the most vulnerable populations. The second and final webinar of the series explored how to mitigate climate change-induced emergencies through comprehensive disaster and climate risk management, as well as emergency solutions.

### Greater impact through collaboration

The 2024 [LATAM webinars](#) were a joint effort by NWP and the embassies of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, Panama, Peru, and Venezuela.

These interactive webinars were designed to [connect Dutch and Latin American water experts](#), including water authorities, environmental project stakeholders, engineering firms, consultancies, knowledge institutions, and NGOs working on water and environmental projects. The goal was to achieve greater impact through collaboration.

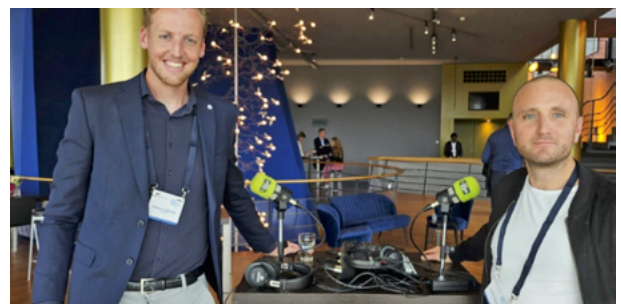
[Recordings](#) of the sessions are available on request.

## 5.2.5 Podcast: How AI is Shaping the Future of Water Infrastructure

In 2024, NWP highlighted the role of artificial intelligence (AI) in shaping the future of the water infrastructure in a [podcast](#) in the TKI Water Technology TechTalk series, recorded at the European Water Technology Week (EWTW) in Leeuwarden.

The podcast delved into the [fundamentals of AI and its advantages for the Dutch water sector](#), highlighting how AI and machine learning are transforming the industry by enhancing decision-making, optimising resources, and boosting efficiency.

Designed for water utilities, regional water boards, private-sector innovators, students, and researchers wanting to know more about AI's cross-sector applications, the podcast features observations from Robbert Lodewijks (HULO.ai), Merel Laauwen (AKVO), and Wiger Levering (Royal HaskoningDHV). The podcast was broadcast on [New Business Radio](#).



## 5.2.6 Green hydrogen study Namibia

NWP has conducted a study for the Netherlands Embassy in South Africa and the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO) [on opportunities in the green hydrogen-water nexus](#). The study identifies Dutch, South African, and Namibian stakeholders with relevant expertise in areas such as desalination, wastewater treatment, and by-product reuse, and explores potential partnerships. A key focus is on matching Dutch innovations with concrete leads in South Africa and Namibia and is supported by the Embassy.

## 6. NWP, a catalyst of opportunities in the water sector

Since its inception, NWP has served as a vital platform for uniting the Dutch water sector, and as a gateway for international organisations to access Dutch water expertise. In 2024, NWP continued to drive collective collaboration within the Dutch water sector and fostered valuable knowledge exchanges with global partners through a wide range of impactful events and activities:

- Exhibition booths – Netherlands Pavilion
- International visits
- Missions to international markets
- Learning programmes





## 6.1 NL Pavilions

### Optimising the exposure of the Dutch water sector at international events

As a core activity since its founding, NWP facilitates the presence of the Dutch water sector at important trade fairs, conferences and exhibitions, consistently coordinating the collective representation through the Netherlands Pavilion or a Netherlands Lounge. Last year, NWP hosted country pavilions at [ACODAL](#), [Aquatech China](#), [IFAT Munich](#), [IFAT Brasil](#), [IWA World Water Congress and Exhibition](#), and [Oman Sustainability Week](#).

In total, NWP supported over 70 exhibiting companies in advancing their business goals, helping them reach new markets, connect with potential venture partners, and optimise their presence on some of the industry's most prominent stages.

[IFAT Brasil](#) was a special initiative for us. The first-ever IFAT Brasil took place in April 2024, and NWP had the honour of hosting the Netherlands Lounge at the Innovation Pavilion of Isle Utilities, one of the world's largest consultants in the field of innovation in the water sector. In addition to one-on-one conversations with fair visitors at the Lounge, Dutch exhibitors participated in the Technology Innovation Award celebrated by Isle Utilities.

"The location and the set-up were very nice and there was plenty of space for visitors to walk around the booths," says Sergio Ribeiro, Sales Director Brazil Water Technology Products at Haskoning.



The [ACODAL](#) Water, Waste and Energy Congress & Exhibition was also exceptional. After two years of being held in Bogotá, ACODAL returned to Cartagena, the city at the heart of Dutch-Colombian cooperation. Even before the doors opened, the ACODAL event offered numerous opportunities to strengthen existing ties and forge new ones. The Dutch delegation was warmly welcomed to Colombia with [field visits](#) organised by Holland House Colombia and NWP.

During the Congress, Dutch exhibitors featured in multiple speaking engagements and took part in a [matchmaking session](#) organised by ACODAL.

When looking back at the overall experience, Wiger Franke, Executive Director at Wequips, said that "the set-up of the Netherlands Lounge was excellent. I liked the opportunity to interact with other Dutch participants, and the field visits before ACODAL had an added value. We had two great days of one-on-one meetings. In total, we had around 15 meetings which helped Wequips efficiently find potential clients and future leads for pumps and monitoring equipment."

## 6.2 Advancing global water solutions through learning exchange

As part of NWP's ongoing commitment to strengthening international cooperation on water issues, NWP continued to support knowledge exchanges. In partnership with the Asian Development Bank (ADB), NWP hosted the [Asia-Netherlands Water Learning Week \(ANWLW\)](#) – an intensive, week-long event that brought together nearly 50 delegates from 11 Asian countries actively involved in ADB projects focused on water and Nature-Based Solutions (NBS).

During the week, participants deepened their understanding of NBS, exploring their applicability in cities, coastal areas, and river basins. ANWLW's learning objectives extended well beyond the technical aspects of NBS. The topics covered included spatial planning, governance, securing finance, institutional embedding, policies and regulations, operations and maintenance, biodiversity, digitisation, and private sector engagement. The programme emphasised the [importance of adapting NBS to the unique local context](#) to ensure that solutions are both effective and sustainable.

Participants had the opportunity to explore inspirational case studies and take part in [field visits](#) to carefully selected locations across Scheveningen, Amsterdam, Delft, Gouda, and Rotterdam – offering them firsthand experience of the innovative solutions being implemented in the Netherlands. As the saying goes, [seeing is believing](#).

Feedback from the event confirmed its value, with participants noting how much they learnt from the Dutch experience on implementing cutting-edge solutions. The ANWLW acted as a dynamic platform for ADB's project teams to [engage with experts](#), [discuss challenges](#), and [explore potential solutions](#) from both Dutch and international perspectives. It fostered meaningful conversations and collaborations that will help shape future water management strategies worldwide.

“Thank you to all organisers and participants for making this learning week extra special. Getting to know all the teams and building partnerships was as much a part of this fantastic experience.”

Ramola Naik Singru | Uzbekistan Team





## 6.3 Fostering international trade and cooperation

Fostering new partnerships and collaboration in the water sector was again a key focus for NWP last year, and was primarily achieved through outbound missions. NWP worked in partnership with the Dutch Government to coordinate international visits for the Dutch water sector on several occasions, fostering valuable connections and expanding global cooperation.

The year started off well with the [Oman Water Week](#) in January. In collaboration with the Netherlands Embassy in Muscat, NWP organised the Dutch water sector's presence, [facilitating speaking engagements](#) throughout the event. The week was marked by the signing of three cooperation agreements between Dutch organisations and key stakeholders of the Omani water sector, highlighting the [long-term commitment](#) from both countries to collaborate and shape the future of water together.

NWP also represented the Dutch water sector during a [mission to Serbia and Bosnia & Herzegovina](#), followed by a visit to [North Macedonia and Kosovo](#). Organised by the Netherlands Embassies in Serbia and Bosnia & Herzegovina, the first mission brought together Dutch companies specialised in wastewater treatment and flood protection. The insights gained from these visits will [help shape a potential long-term strategy for the Western Balkans](#), developed in collaboration with NWP's partners.

To enhance the participation of the Dutch water sector at [IFAT India](#), NWP supported the Netherlands Consulate with a three-day programme which featured [stage events, onsite matchmaking, and a networking reception](#). A key highlight was the panel discussion on 'How India-Netherlands Collaboration is Shaping Sustainable Water Solutions,' which was moderated by NWP.

'The panel discussion with Dutch companies organised by NWP was well received, and Mirjam's unique and enthusiastic presentation style enhanced this. I believe that NWP and its programme inspired the Dutch Consulate to engage more Dutch companies in the water sector for IFAT India 2025.'

Tom Postma - Owner and founder of Technimex Water Management

Lastly, NWP also organised the [Saudi Agriculture trade mission](#), in collaboration with Dutch Greenhouse Delta and the Netherlands Embassy in Riyadh. Saudi Agriculture is a key event aimed at strengthening [Saudi-Dutch collaboration](#) in sustainable agriculture. NWP was part of a panel discussion on water management in horticulture, focusing on water sustainability in Controlled Environment Agriculture (CEA). In addition, NWP supported the development of the Water for Green Partners for International Business Programme, which is designed to foster public-private partnerships in the Gulf region.

## 6.4 Bringing the Dutch water sector and international peers closer

NWP actively fosters collaboration and partnerships to build a water-driven future. One of the ways we do this is by hosting international delegations visiting the Netherlands, creating opportunities for meaningful exchange.

In 2024, NWP had the honour to accompany several international stakeholders who came to the country looking for Dutch water-related expertise. Here's a glimpse of these visits.

In February, NWP welcomed the [State Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry of Moldova](#), Mr Vasile Șarban, along with six directors from various agricultural associations, as part of a five-day study tour to the Netherlands. During their visit to the NWP office, the delegation was introduced to key Dutch initiatives such as the Young Expert Programmes, the Water for Food Programme, and the Nutrient Platform. They also engaged with NWP member Konkaav and agro-water experts from Delphy and Nectaerra. The visit contributed to Moldova's ambitions to establish a national Horticulture Office aimed at guiding sustainable sector development.

In March, [NWP facilitated a meeting](#) between the [Panama Canal Authorities](#) and several NWP member organisations on sustainable water management solutions. The Panama Canal Authorities were in the Netherlands seeking solutions to balance the water needs for transiting vessels with those of human consumption, while also addressing the challenge of saltwater intrusion. The delegation, led by Ms. Ilya Espino de Marotta, Deputy CEO of the Panama Canal Authorities, met with representatives from NWP member companies IV-Water, Wageningen University Research, Deltares, KWR, FutureWater, OBM Legal, and the Netherlands Enterprise Agency.

Two months later, NWP and Water Alliance [hosted a top-level delegation from the Saudi Water Authority](#) for a series of productive meetings, reinforcing the

strong collaborative ties between the Netherlands and Saudi Arabia. Led by His Excellency Eng. Abdullah Ibrahim Al-Abdul-Karim, the visit included engaging discussions with the Dutch Special Envoy for Water, Meike van Ginneken, and insightful presentations on integrated water management at Deltares and TU Delft. The delegation also explored cutting-edge innovations in water technology, including a visit to Wetsus, NX Filtration, and the University of Twente's Nano Lab. The meetings concluded with discussions on smart water technology and AI, [setting the foundation for future collaborations](#) aligned with Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030.



In June 2024, NWP hosted an incoming delegation from the [Metro Vancouver Region](#), accompanied by the Consulate General of the Netherlands in Vancouver. The delegation, which included several mayors facing growing climate-related challenges such as urban flooding, visited the Afsluitdijk to learn about Dutch innovations in climate resilience.

With presentations from NWP members Delta Marine Consultants and Levvel, and information shared by Rijkswaterstaat and EcoShape, the group explored cutting-edge solutions such as X-Bloc technology and nature-based solutions. The visit, that also included a site tour and lunch in Den Oever, generated valuable ideas for future collaboration in urban resilience and water infrastructure.

Later in the year, the [Ukraine Water Public-Private Partnership \(UWP3\) Platform](#) hosted [a networking lunch for a delegation from Ukrhydroenergo](#), Ukraine's largest hydro power company. Organised by Rijks-

waterstaat and the Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management, the visit aimed to exchange knowledge on critical infrastructure management. The delegation, including senior officials and department directors, was joined by representatives from Dutch Government agencies and UWP3 Platform members like Haskoning and Van Oord. A field trip to Afsluitdijk, guided by Rijkswaterstaat experts, highlighted key infrastructure management practices. As UWP3 Platform coordinator, NWP facilitated this valuable exchange, supporting international cooperation on water management.





## 6.5 Showcasing Dutch advancements in water security

Once again, NWP made the Netherlands' contribution to global water security much more visible through the [Dutchwatersector.com](https://dutchwatersector.com) website. Featuring over 40 articles, the site highlighted successful water-related initiatives from around the world, all underpinned by one common factor: the Netherlands' unparalleled expertise in water management.

Whether through individual efforts or multidisciplinary partnerships, the Netherlands continues to lead the charge in ensuring a sustainable water future for all. Dutchwatersector.com played a key role in showcasing some of last year's most significant achievements.

Let's take a moment to revisit some of the key highlights published throughout the year:

**January** – Dutch knowledge institutes behind the first high-resolution time-dependent groundwater model of the world. [Read the story.](#)

**February** – Sustainable freshwater supply in New Caledonia through solar desalination. [Read the story.](#)

**March** – Water technology programme brings British and Dutch water industries closer. [Read the story.](#)

**April** – Smart water management in the Netherlands with the Digital Delta API. [Read the story.](#)

**May** – Japan installs its first offshore floating solar demonstrator. [Read the story.](#)

**June** – NL2120, elevating nature-based solutions. [Read the story.](#)

**July** – Dutch innovative flood barrier enters the USA market. [Read the story.](#)

**August** – Private water management advances water and sanitation services in Siaya County. [Read the story.](#)

**September** – New Water Action Agenda's magazine inspires global water action. [Read the story.](#)

**October** – Dutch technology for drainage water recycling in Vietnam. [Read the story.](#)

**November** – Successful completion of Dutch Jordanian water project. [Read the story.](#)

**December** – Enhancing flood management in Kazakhstan. [Read the story.](#)

Today's water challenges demand [collaboration](#) and the [sharing of knowledge](#). Dutchwatersector.com connects you to the Netherlands' latest innovations and expertise in water management.

Visit the [website](#) to explore successful global initiatives, gain insights from Dutch leadership, and find partners with whom to collaborate for sustainable water solutions.

## 7. Facts & figures

NWP's members form the largest water network in the Netherlands that focuses on international collaboration to address global water issues.

### NWP membership in 2024

**11**

new members

**165**

members in total

### Meet the NWP members:

**4%**

Architecture & Spatial Planning

**3%**

Civil & Hydraulic construction

**16%**

Civil Society – NGOs

**15%**

Consultancy & Engineering

**11%**

Dutch Water Authorities

**7%**

Government Organisations

**7%**

Knowledge & Research Institutions

**9%**

SMEs – Other

**23%**

Water Technology & Manufacturing

**5%**

Water Utilities

### Join the NWP members!

### Outreach & visibility

NWP connects the knowledge, expertise, and innovations of the Dutch water sector to the global demand for solutions to water-related challenges. While doing so, it creates and disseminates [high-quality content and market intelligence](#) that is conveyed through its various digital channels. In 2024, NWP's outreach and sector visibility can be translated into:

[www.netherlandswaterpartnership.com](http://www.netherlandswaterpartnership.com)

**48.8K active users & 66.9K sessions**

### NWP

**16.4K LinkedIn followers**

### NWP newsletter

**12.3K subscribers**

[www.dutchwatersector.com](http://www.dutchwatersector.com)

**56.7K active users & 72.3K sessions**

[Dutchwatersector.com](http://Dutchwatersector.com)

**1.3K Facebook followers**

[Dutchwatersector.com newsletter](#)

**19.4K subscribers**

## NWP's global presence in 2024





## 7.1 Balance sheet and profit and loss account

### Condensed Balance Sheet as of 31 December 2024

x € 1.000

	31-12-2024	31-12-2023
Fixed assets	133	155
Receivables	479	1.212
Cash and cash equivalents	1.363	573
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>1.975</b>	<b>1.940</b>
Less: Current liabilities	1.486	1.532
<b>Equity</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>408</b>

## Condensed statement of income and expenses

x € 1.000

	31-12-2024	31-12-2023
<b>Income</b>		
Income from programs and projects	6.118	7.354
Participant contributions	372	317
<b>Total income (A)</b>	<b>6.490</b>	<b>7.671</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Personnel costs for staff positions	1.742	1.812
Costs for deploying networkers	266	328
Direct project costs	3.897	5.186
Other operating expenses	510	408
<b>Total expenses (B)</b>	<b>6.416</b>	<b>7.734</b>
A-B	74	-63
Financial income and expenses	7	3
Result before taxes	81	-60
Corporate income tax	-	-
Net income and expenses balance	81	-60
Net result for the financial year to be allocated to:		
• Continuity reserve	44	-61
• Designated reserve Nutrient Platform	37	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>-61</b>

## Accounting principles for valuation and result determination

### Estimates

To apply the principles and rules for preparing the financial statements, the board of the NWP needs to make judgments and estimates regarding various matters that may be essential for the amounts reported in the financial statements. Where necessary for understanding, the nature of these judgments and estimates, including the related assumptions, are disclosed in the notes to the relevant financial statement items.

### Functional currency

The items in the financial statements are measured using the currency of the economic environment in which the business activities are conducted (the functional currency). The financial statements are presented in euros, which is both the functional and presentation currency of the NWP.

### Going concern assumption

The applied principles for valuation and determination of results are based on the going concern assumption of the NWP.

### Principles of valuation

#### General

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the 'Guideline for Not-for-Profit Organizations' issued by the Dutch Accounting Standards Board.

Assets and liabilities are generally valued at acquisition or manufacturing cost, or at fair value. If no specific valuation basis is stated, valuation is at acquisition cost. Acquisition cost is defined as the amount expected to be received or paid upon settlement of the respective item.

The financial year corresponds to the calendar year.

### Comparison with the previous year

The valuation and result determination principles applied have remained unchanged compared to the previous year

### Impairment of fixed assets

The NWP assesses at each balance sheet date whether there are indications that a fixed asset may be impaired. If such indications exist, the recoverable amount of the asset is determined.

### Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are valued at acquisition cost less depreciation based on the expected economic life. Depreciation is calculated pro rata in the year of acquisition. The applied depreciation rate for tangible assets is 20%, except for buildings, where the depreciation rate is 10%. All tangible fixed assets are used in operations.

### Work in progress

Work in progress commissioned by third parties is valued at the realized project costs less invoiced installments, taking possible losses into account.

### Receivables

Receivables are valued at the fair value of the consideration. If an allowance for doubtful debts is necessary, this is deducted from the carrying amount of the receivable.

### Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are valued at nominal value.

### Short-term liabilities

Short-term liabilities are valued at fair value and have a maturity of less than one year.



### **Employee pension scheme**

The pension scheme is administered by Centraal Beheer Achmea. It is a defined contribution plan, whereby NWP contributes two-thirds of the premium and the employee one-third. The pension costs recognized in the financial statements represent two-thirds of the total premium.

### **Accounting policies for the determination of the result**

#### **General**

Unless otherwise stated, income and expenses are allocated to the financial year to which they relate. Income is recognized in the year in which the services are rendered. Expenses are accounted for in the year in which they are foreseeable. The 2024 actuals are compared to the approved 2024 budget.

#### **Operating Subsidies**

Operating subsidies are recognized as income under personnel costs in the statement of income and expenditure in the year in which the subsidized costs were incurred, revenue was forgone, or a subsidized operating deficit occurred.

### **Project Costs**

Project costs include costs directly related to the project, costs attributable to project activities in general that are directly allocable to the project, and other costs contractually chargeable to the client. Project costs are allocated to the period to which they relate.

### **Employee Benefits**

Wages, salaries, and social security contributions are recognized in the statement of income and expenditure in accordance with the terms of employment, to the extent that they are owed.

### **Depreciation**

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated over five years from the moment they are taken into use.

### **Interest Income and Expenses**

Interest income and expenses are recognized on a time-proportionate basis, taking into account the effective interest rate of the related assets and liabilities.

## REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR

To the board of Stichting Netherlands Water Partnership

### Our opinion

The summary financial statements 2024 (hereafter: 'the summary financial statements') of Stichting Netherlands Water Partnership, based in The Hague is derived from the audited financial statements 2024 of Stichting Netherlands Water Partnership.

In our opinion the accompanying summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements 2024 of Stichting Netherlands Water Partnership.

The summary financial statements comprise:

1. Condensed Balance Sheet as of 31 December 2024;
2. Condensed statement of income and expenses; and
3. Accounting principles for valuation and result determination.

### Summary financial statements

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Dutch Accounting Standard RJ 640 for Not-for-Profit Organisations. Reading the summary financial statements and our report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial statements of Stichting Netherlands Water Partnership and our auditor's report thereon. The summary financial statements and the audited financial statements do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our auditor's report on those financial statements of 13 June 2025.

### The audited financial statements and our auditor's report thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited financial statements 2024 of Stichting Netherlands Water Partnership in our auditor's report of 13 June 2025.

### Responsibilities of management and the supervisory board for summary financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of the summary financial statements. The supervisory board is responsible for overseeing the company's financial reporting process.

### Our responsibilities

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements based on our procedures, which we conducted in accordance with Dutch law, including the Dutch Standard 810 'Engagements to report on summary financial statements'.

Digitaal ondertekend door:

Harderwijk, 19 June 2025  
Rene Hop  
19 juni 2025 14:44 +02:00

Lentink De Jonge Accountants  
R. Hop MSc RA RE  
(external certified auditor)

Lentink De Jonge Accountants & Adviseurs hanteert de algemene voorwaarden van brancheorganisatie SRA-Accountantskantoren waar Lentink De Jonge Accountants & Adviseurs lid van is. Deze algemene voorwaarden van de SRA-Accountantskantoren, waarin een beperking van de aansprakelijkheid is opgenomen, zijn op een ieder van toepassing. De algemene voorwaarden zijn gedeponeerd bij de Kamer van Koophandel te Utrecht, onder nummer 40481496, en zijn tevens te raadplegen op [www.lentinkdejonge.nl](http://www.lentinkdejonge.nl). Als opdrachtnemer geldt uitsluitend de maatschap Lentink De Jonge Accountants & Adviseurs voornoemd. Lentink De Jonge Accountants & Adviseurs is een onafhankelijk lid van Kreston, een internationaal netwerk van accountantskantoren.

## 8. NWP in 2024

Since NWP's founding in 1999, fostering collaboration in the Dutch water sector and abroad has remained at the core of its mission. Its mission remains to facilitate the Dutch water sector in addressing global water challenges in a socially just and environmentally resilient way, while expanding its global reach and business success.

NWP works with public and private [partners](#) and [members](#) to co-create [future-proof solutions](#), while connecting expertise across the water, food, and energy sectors. It promotes cross-sector collaboration and innovation through programmes that build coalitions, raise international profiles, and contribute to the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

With strong connections across the sector and through its wide network, NWP connects organisations and individuals to enhance the collective impact and tackle global water challenges.

NWP's governance includes a Supervisory Board and an Advisory Board.

### Supervisory Board

NWP's Supervisory Board, chaired by Rob Steijn, [safeguards NWP's interests](#) and its [stakeholders' interests](#) by providing oversight and advice. It ensures that NWP operates in line with its mission, approves the budget and annual accounts, and appoints NWP's management.

The Supervisory Board consists of Dorette Corbey, Esat Akkaya, Martijn van de Groep, and Rob Steijn.

In addition to the Supervisory Board that oversees NWP's operations, an Advisory Board offers strategic guidance and reflects the diversity of the Dutch water sector.



## 8.1 Advisory Board

NWP is an independent, non-governmental foundation that bridges the public and private sectors and research and knowledge institutes. Our high-level Advisory Board is an important body in NWP's governance structure that supports the foundation to carry out its mission of promoting and serving the interests, needs, and priorities of the Dutch water sector in the international community. As outlined in the NWP Statutes, its members reflect the key sectors of the broad Dutch water sector.

At the beginning of 2024, [Anne Loes Nillesen](#) of Defacto joined the Advisory Board, representing the [Spatial Planning & Architecture](#) key sector. We also warmly welcomed [Toine Ramaker](#), CEO of VEI, as the successor of Jelle Hannema in representing the [drinking water utilities](#) on our Advisory Board. Yousef of LG Sonic was succeeded by Lisa Brand, also from the same company. Katja Portegies of Rijkswaterstaat (Directorate-General for Public Works and Water Management) stepped down from her position, following the decision for a single representative from the [national government](#). Boaz Neugebauer, who represented the [Civil & Hydraulic Construction sector](#), stepped down, and his position on the Advisory Board is now vacant.

*“As a member of NWP's Advisory Board, I can represent the interests of the architects and spatial planners. I also like the fact that NWP brings many entities together and is very visible.”*

[Anne Loes Nillesen, Owner of Defacto Urbanism & Professor Urban design Delft University](#)

The [Dutch Advisory Board](#) met four times in 2024.

The main topics of the year were:

- the long term strategy and potential tasks and roles of NWP;
- the role and task of the Advisory Board in the governance of NWP;
- assessment of the annual plan for 2025;
- how to prepare for and deal with the new Dutch Government's revised policies on trade and development cooperation.

The present composition of the Advisory Board is:

- Mr Henk Nieboer, Chair
- Ms Meike van Ginneken representing the Central Government
- Mrs Luzette Kroon representing the Water Authorities
- Mr Toine Ramaker representing Water Utilities
- Mr Johannes Boonstra representing Knowledge and Research Institutes
- Mr Michel Riemersma representing the Consultants and Engineers
- Mrs Lisa Brand representing Water Technology Innovation and Manufacturers
- Ms Anne Loes Nillesen representing Spatial Planners and Architects
- Mr Jacob Jan Vreugdenhil representing NGOs

## NWP Advisory Board



## 9. Colophon

This Annual Report is a publication of the Netherlands Water Partnership.

Please contact us for more information on this Report, to become an NWP member, or for general questions: Netherlands Water Partnership, Koningskade 40, 2596 AA The Hague, The Netherlands.

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**Let's collaborate for a Water. Driven. Future.**

**[Join the NWP network!](#)**



