

UNIVERSITY FUND  
**WAGENINGEN**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2025**



creating a difference together

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## COLOPHON

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## FOREWORD

*Dear reader,*

Philanthropy is more important than ever. With public funds tightening, contributions from our donors and partners are facilitating even more programmes and projects at Wageningen University & Research (WUR) that would otherwise not get off the ground.

Philanthropy thus helps us to implement WUR's strategic plan and mission. And, not insignificantly, philanthropic contributions increase WUR's independence. Donations strengthen ties with our alumni, stakeholders and society and make 'WUR' a shared story.

That is why I am immensely proud of our donor community at home and abroad, which is the mainstay of our activities. In 2025, they enabled University Fund Wageningen to allocate an extra 10 million euros to scholarships, innovative education, pioneering research and inspiring entrepreneurship.

Some of this additional money came from our engaged alumni community, who generously contributed to talent development and emergency funding. Among the stories you will read in this annual report is that of Niguse, who was able to finish his PhD in Wageningen thanks to the Louise O. Fresco Emergency Fund.

Our donors also contributed to scholarships and research. Nikoleta, for instance, is studying in Wageningen thanks to the Pavlos Condellis Fund. And the great-grandchildren of Wageningen's most famous professor Gerrit Grijns took the initiative of setting up our first themed fund: the Gerrit Grijns Fund. This themed fund promotes pioneering research, education, and entrepreneurship at the intersection of nutrition, food, and health.

Philanthropic partners, such as the Dioraphte Foundation, made fundamental and applied research possible – types of research for which regular funding is difficult. In Sierra Leone, our WUR researchers carried out a very extensive scientific programme together with local research teams to test interventions across the chicken

value chain and to see how they can combat poverty.

Thanks to internal and external cooperation and donations, we also ensured that several (young) Wageningen entrepreneurs were able to develop their innovative, knowledge-driven ideas into a business case, such as alumnus Michele of the startup Eatpol, who, thanks to a donation, can carry out market validation for his AI food testing model.

What is more, as you can read in our figures, we also raised a wonderful amount in pledges for future years. It is especially heartwarming to learn of people allocating WUR a very special place in their future spending, in their will. In this annual report, you will discover why Anne Marjan Greve made this plan for her estate.

In short, what you have before you is an annual report full of stories from WUR students, researchers, entrepreneurs and donors who are all enormously passionate about making a contribution to WUR's mission: Shaping responsible change. I hope our stories will inspire you and others who want to contribute



to a future where people and nature flourish, all over the world.

Enjoy reading the report!

Lies Boelrijk,  
Director University Fund Wageningen

# on a mission **TOGETHER**

At Wageningen University & Research (WUR), everything revolves around one powerful mission: "To explore the potential of nature to improve the quality of life". We are ambitious. It is only by asking the right questions and pushing boundaries that we can build a healthy future for people, plants and animals worldwide, for the sustainable use of our planet.

## A recognised world leader in knowledge and innovation

WUR has been among the best institutions in the Netherlands for 20 years now and is ranked in the top 100 internationally, conducting leading research in nutrition, agriculture, and forest and nature management. This is thanks to over a hundred years of experience, world-class innovative research, passionate students and researchers, and a close link between education, science and practice.

## From fundamental knowledge to applicable solutions

At WUR, we train students to become professionals with the courage to assume leadership in urgent societal transitions such as a sustainable food system, ecosystem restoration and a circular economy. We combine fundamental research with concrete solutions, worldwide.

## University Fund Wageningen: making more possible

Some ideas are too valuable to pass up on when regular funding has not been found for them. That's where University Fund Wageningen comes in. The fund

makes a difference as an independent bridge between donors and WUR talent. Thanks to additional donations, we develop talent, enable research and encourage entrepreneurship. This is how we accelerate and increase WUR's

“

*Thanks to additional donations, we develop talent, enable research and encourage entrepreneurship*

societal value. By supporting us, you will be investing in recognised research excellence, passionate students and a better world.

**BECOME PART OF OUR MISSION. MAKE AN IMPACT WITH YOUR DONATION.**

## WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY & RESEARCH:

- Is an international leader, with deep roots in the Netherlands
- Is number 1 in the world for agricultural sciences
- Is the world's most sustainable university
- Has approximately 35% international Master's students from over 100 countries



### Ms J. Veldkamp, donor:

*"I support education and research for motivated students from countries with fewer opportunities. Their sustainable academic training is essential – not only for their own country, but also for the world."*



# WHAT DO OUR figures say?

## INCOME FROM FUNDRAISING



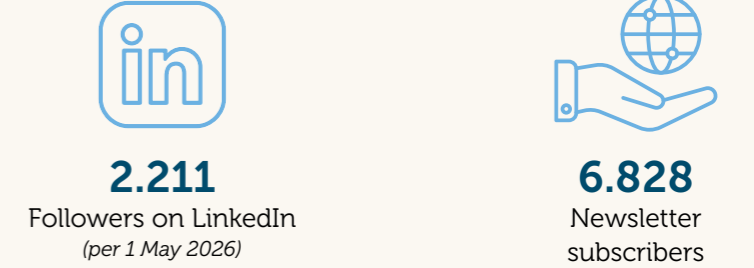
## FUNDRAISING



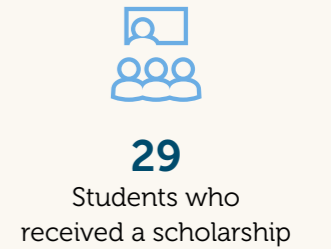
## VOLUNTEERS



## ONLINE



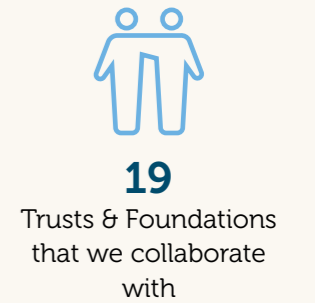
## ACTIVITIES



## EXPENSE



## DONORS





Nikoleta together with Ariane Condellis on the Wageningen Campus in 2024

## GREEK STUDENT NIKOLETA IS ON HER WAY to her dream career as travelling entomologist thanks to a scholarship

Nikoleta Kaplatzi from Heraklion, Crete, studies Plant Sciences with a specialisation in Entomology at WUR. A scholarship from the Pavlos Condellis Fund enabled her to realise her dream of studying in Wageningen.

### Butterflies and nicotine

Nikoleta is well on her way in her second year of her Master's. She has just finished her thesis about the effect of nicotine in the behavior of butterflies, in this case cabbage white. Nikoleta explains: "Neonicotinoids are used to battle aphids in for example cabbage cultivation and we wanted to see whether nicotine also deters other insect species. We used two different nectar solutions, one containing only sucrose and the other one containing varying concentrations of nicotine, dissolved in sucrose. And we saw that when nicotine concentration increased, the butterflies avoid it. So, we can conclude that they work as a deterrent on non-target organisms as well, which is disadvantageous for biodiversity."

Nikoleta talks about her research with much enthusiasm, as butterflies are her favourite insect. "My favourite, though, is not cabbage white but *Manduca sexta*, commonly known as Carolina sphinx moth or the tobacco hawk moth. They are native to North America."

### Taxonomy and travelling

The next step is an internship in Copenhagen at the Natural History Museum. Getting an internship at a museum is not an easy feat, but Nikoleta took her chance and wrote

directly to the head researcher there and got accepted. "I will focus on Dipterans, an order of two-winged flies. I will work on the taxonomy of uncategorized storage of Crane flies and I will also conduct fieldwork to collect specimens and see if there is a difference with the species already present in the museum."

Could she find a new species? Nikoleta: "I hope that happens, the publication would be nice. I might get to name it. Some people name new insects after themselves or people they love, but I would stick to characteristics, though I would probably use a Greek word to add a little bit of myself." Her biggest dream is not fame and fortune,

however, but a life lived travelling, looking for species and photographing them. "I really enjoy photography in my spare time. My dream destinations are the Amazon and Hawaii. So many insects to see there!"

### Forest fires and climate change

After her Master's she hopes to do a PhD. "I want to study the Mediterranean fauna of insects, mostly butterflies of course. Specifically, I want to study what effect forest fires and climate change have on biodiversity. I think it is very interesting and also necessary to understand nature and how it evolves, and the effects of us humans on the ecosystem."

### The fruit of a scholarship

Support from the Pavlos Condellis Fund was fundamental in helping Nikoleta take these steps on her dream path of becoming a travelling entomologist with a focus on climate change. "The scholarship was a big financial help to me. Without it, I would have either had to work fulltime for some years, before I could afford to study in Wageningen, or I would have had a lot of financial stress while studying here. And being chosen as a scholarship recipient also felt like a personal achievement. It helped me to believe in myself." Nikoleta even got to meet one of the founders of the Fund, Ariane Condellis, last year. "It was very special to meet her. We talked about my ambitions and she really cared about my future."

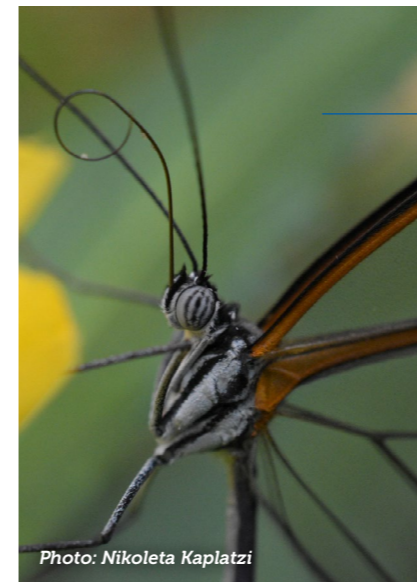


Photo: Nikoleta Kaplatzi

### About the Pavlos Condellis Fund

The fund provides the Pavlos Condellis Scholarship for Greek students who follow a programme and/or aim at a future career that is focused on climate-resilient agriculture, specifically water and drought management. The fund is continued by Ariane Condellis, widow of founder Pavlos Condellis. Ariane: "To be part of such a future-oriented and at the same time human university is a very happy experience. It means a lot to me to continue my late husband's legacy in such an inspiring environment."

# STORIES *from our talents*

Our Friends and our Named Funds encourage talent development at WUR. Together, we help students and young researchers grow into responsible changemakers.

## Wageningen researchers decorated with Research Awards

Together with the Wageningen Graduate Schools (WGS), each year we present four Research Awards of €2,500 each, which recognise promising researchers at Wageningen University & Research for their exceptional achievements in scientific research, collaboration and supervision.

In 2025, the Research Paper of the Year Award was handed to PhD candidate Ralph van Zwieten for his research into mimicking plants' natural defence

systems, where, inspired by nature, he developed a sustainable pesticide. Instead of poisoning insects with chemical pesticides, this pesticide causes the insects that land on the plants to get stuck there, effectively combating plant damage and the spread of viruses.

The Transdisciplinary Research of the Year award went to Kathleen Uyttewaal for her PhD research into a new approach to wildfires. As part of

her research, she combined science with the wants and needs of the local community. She used this to develop several options for adaptations that bring together local knowledge and scientific insights for a resilient and fire-safe future.

Erik Poelman and Johan Schrama shared first place for the Supervisor of the Year award. The EPS Postdoc Council won the award for Team Effort of the Year.



"I was initially enrolled on a sandwich PhD at Wageningen University & Research (WUR). After my first short stay

## **NIGUSE WAS ABLE TO FINISH HIS PHD** *during the Tigray war thanks to support from the Louise O. Fresco Emergency Fund*

in the Netherlands, I returned to Ethiopia to gather data and perform research, but it became very unsafe for me because of the Tigray war, which disrupted my work for almost a year. With support from colleagues at WUR, I was eventually able to return to the Netherlands. It soon became clear that it was no longer safe or feasible for me to continue my PhD in Ethiopia. This made me feel extremely uncertain about both my safety and the future of my PhD. Without extra support, I would not have been able to stay in the Netherlands, and I would probably have had to suspend or abandon my PhD.

The fund helped me when I needed it most. It was a huge relief to hear that I had received support. This allowed me to stay in Wageningen, continue my research and regain stability during a very challenging period.

I greatly appreciate this initiative. It provides a lifeline for students facing unexpected crises beyond their control. I am very grateful to the donors for the opportunity to continue my academic journey."

## Marina van Damme Scholarship 2025 supports female leadership among WUR alumni



The Marina van Damme Scholarship is coveted by scores of female Wageningen alumni every year. Out of a total of 24 candidates, alumna Anita Bake was chosen as the 2025 scholarship recipient. The jury found that she was the one with the most promising idea for the next step in her career:

Anita Bake will use the prize money of €9,000 to pursue a leadership programme in the food sector: the Executive MBA - Food and Agribusiness Track, offered by Wageningen University & Research in collaboration with the TIAS School for Business and Society. This MBA track is specifically for scientists and academics who want to

transition from academia to business leadership. This opportunity represents a big step in a new direction in Anita's career, moving into a leadership role to drive systemic change in food systems focused on children.

An incentive prize was also awarded this year by Marina van Damme, the

fund's initiator. Alumna Ivana Mik can use this prize to take a course at TIAS too: "Starting Leadership and Management". Ivana hopes to acquire the skills needed to become a good manager of her own startup or at another company.

# ADDITIONAL INCENTIVE GRANT

## for food innovators from the Global South

In October 2025, the World Food Forum in Rome marked a milestone with the finals of the Youth Food Lab incubator programme. It was the end of an eight-month journey in which 10 student teams developed their initiatives for transforming global food systems.

From Uganda to Nepal, Indonesia to Brazil, and beyond, these passionate young innovators showcased their ideas for more sustainable, inclusive and more resilient food systems. Among them were the top 5 teams from the Food Systems Innovation Challenge 2024 of WUR Student

Challenges, who proudly presented their projects alongside peers from nine countries.

After ten powerful pitches (and even an impromptu Indonesian sing-along), the Audience Award of €1,000, made possible by University

Fund Wageningen, went too Sweet Root (Indonesia) – a team creatively turning sweet potatoes into affordable, nutritious biscuits to combat stunting and to empower their community. To support the finalists' innovative ideas, University Fund Wageningen awarded all the participating teams an additional



### Contribute to young entrepreneurs in the Global South

Are you interested in supporting Youth Food Lab Global or other talented students and young researchers at WUR? Through your contribution, you will be investing in responsible changemakers, balanced global partnerships and locally driven solutions to food and climate challenges. Contact us to find out how you can contribute. [universityfundwageningen.eu/talent](https://universityfundwageningen.eu/talent)



**Wageningen Ambassadors**  
*The Wageningen Ambassadors are distinguished alumni of Wageningen University & Research (WUR). They are all leaders in business, government and the non-profit world, who hold WUR close to their heart. Through their network, experience and financial resources, they seek to build a bridge between WUR and society.*  
[universityfundwageningen.eu/ambassadors](https://universityfundwageningen.eu/ambassadors)

incentive grant of €1,000. These surprise awards were handed out on stage by our director, Lies Boelrijk.

This donation was in addition to the annual contribution made by University Fund Wageningen's special philanthropy network, the Wageningen Ambassadors. Alongside financial assistance, several individual ambassadors also support the Youth Food Lab as mentors.

### Youth Food Lab: enabling young entrepreneurs in the Global South to build resilient food systems

Young people in the Global South already face the effects of climate change, food insecurity and limited economic opportunities on a daily basis. Youth Food Lab Global supports these young changemakers in turning ideas that are rooted locally into viable entrepreneurial solutions, strengthening food systems and livelihoods where impact is needed most urgently.

Youth Food Lab Global is driven by Wageningen University & Research (WUR), in balanced, long-term collaborations with universities in Africa, Asia and Latin America to build sustainable innovation capacity locally.

Youth Food Lab Global builds on the Food Systems Innovation Challenge, a six-month programme that reaches

hundreds of students every year. The most promising teams progress to the Youth Food Lab incubation programme, established in 2023 by WUR and its partners World Food Forum and IAAS, where they receive long-term assistance with refining, upscaling and sustaining their initiatives.

Through mentoring, seed capital, training and access to global networks, Youth Food Lab Global helps young entrepreneurs develop the confidence and entrepreneurial mindset to go from idea to implementation, and to replicate that success over time.

### WASTE2WONDERS (Suriname)

One of Youth Food Lab Global's flagship initiatives is Waste2Wonders, a student-led project from Suriname that converts rice husks and coconut waste into biodegradable seedling pots. Developed by students from the Anton de Kom University of Suriname, the project gained international recognition when the King and Queen of the Netherlands visited the team and discussed the potential for scaling up the solution. Waste2Wonders is now preparing to deliver a pitch at the World Food Forum in Rome as they work to move from manual to mechanised production.

# NO CHICKEN-AND-EGG STORY

*Unique research programme in the chicken value chain with societal impact thanks to philanthropic support*

Years of research experience in West Africa opened the eyes of researcher Maarten Voors and his colleagues at Wageningen University & Research (WUR) to an unfortunate paradox in the food system. Take Sierra Leone, where this story will largely unfold: the country is very poor and food security is low, while at the same time there is a lot of fertile land and labour available.

This paradox gave the research team a unique idea for a research programme. "A lot of research focuses on very specific pieces of the agricultural and food system in Africa. But we wanted to take things further" says Maarten Voors. As the title of the programme – Farm, Flock, Fork – suggests, the programme focuses not on one component, but on improvements along the entire value chain: from on-farm production, through processing and distribution, to consumption. As a case study, the WUR researchers took the chicken value chain, mainly in Sierra Leone. So, this is no chicken-and-egg story, but one where everything was under the microscope at the same time.

"This was emphatically not a traditional research project that just produces knowledge," Voors explains. "We deliberately sought to combine science with societal impact. But regular funding is almost non-existent for a hybrid programme like this, where it was also difficult to predict whether it would deliver the desired knowledge and impact."

So, fundamental and applied at the same time, and funding is difficult for both options. Fortunately, there are philanthropic foundations that jump in to fill this gap. The Dioraphte Foundation, whose focus includes research projects and social initiatives

in Africa, saw merit in the project and offered the funding needed to work on an integrated programme instead of separate studies. "As a private fund, we can take more risk than the government. We see ourselves as an incubator for new ideas, so we like to provide space for innovation that requires a fundamental initial investment. That was certainly the case here," says Jasmijn Melse, director of Dioraphte.

Once the funding was in place, Voors could get to work. One of the sub-projects within the programme targeted the introduction of chicken breeds better suited to rural villages.

**Support Research at WUR**  
Thanks to cooperation with philanthropic partners, University Fund Wageningen has the opportunity to promote pioneering research within WUR. More information: [universityfundwageningen.eu/research](https://universityfundwageningen.eu/research)



## RESEARCH

Voors: "In Sierra Leone, you find that chicken meat is often imported, say from Brazil or Europe, as are eggs. Local chicken production consists mainly of small-scale farms or rather more industrialised, import-dependent systems. Brood hens are flown in, and the feed is imported. This makes no sense economically and ecologically as there are many waste streams available locally that would be suitable as chicken feed."

But if you want to make use of those waste streams, as a cheap investment for animal feed and also a circular

approach, you need breeds of chicken that are not the petite chickens that are prevalent in Sierra Leone.

The team therefore introduced dual-purpose chickens: chickens that both lay eggs and are suitable for meat production. A lottery system was set up to give women in around a hundred villages a starter pack of about 13 dual-purpose chickens, training, and a heap of supplies, such as vaccinations for the first few months and chicken feed. The roosters reached a marketable weight within a few months, and the hens laid eggs regularly.

"From the beginning, the basic principle was not to intervene with help but to look for sustainable market mechanisms. We looked at access to inputs, credit, certainty of sales, and connection with consumers."

The programme also gave the WUR researchers enough variation in their work, with not just interviewing, conducting surveys, analysing data and writing on the agenda, but also, for example, handling chickens. "Getting the dual-purpose chickens to Sierra Leone was a logistical nightmare.



Fortunately, we had a whole team of people: a postdoctoral researcher and a PhD candidate from WUR as well as

us continue to rear the chicks, and we worked with a Fair Poultry vet."

"And theft of the chickens was also a big problem. That immediately prompted new research questions, for example relating to supplementary feeding, credit and risk sharing."

When they evaluated the intervention, the researchers observed clear positive effects among these first-time chicken farmers: "There was an increase in income, better food security and an improvement in well-being and mental health. You could also see that the participants themselves were starting to consume more and there was more variation in their diet. It's great to see that a relatively small intervention can make such a big difference." At the same time, there were also challenges: a high mortality rate among the chickens during the rainy season, for example, because then there is not enough food available for animal feed.

New funding is needed for those subsequent research questions, although funding for development research is becoming increasingly scarce. "I see this project as a first step really. It is an example of a small-scale intervention in one value chain, which can also be applied in other countries and to other value chains, such as rice. Farm, Flock, Fork shows that relatively simple interventions can have a big impact, but also that a sustainable scale-up requires systemic change. This is something we want to keep working on."

## FARM, FLOCK, FORK *sub-projects*



Local production and processing of maize as chicken feed, helping farmers to improve their production and to link up with the local sales market of farmers who have used imported maize until now.



Linking of farmers to funding through local banks



Integration of production, sales and consumption

Development of feed recipes using local ingredients so that waste streams can be utilised for fodder.



Introduction of dual-purpose chickens to women of 110 villages using a lottery system, and evaluation of the changes in their mental and physical health, food security, financial situation and the health of their chickens.



“*From the beginning, the basic principle was not to intervene with help but to look for sustainable market mechanisms*”

a local team of research managers and assistants. In the end, we imported day-old chicks from Ghana and found a local chicken breeder who helped

# LAUNCH OF THE GERRIT GRIJNS FUND

*for food, nutrition and health*

On 29 August 2025, we launched our newest named fund: the Gerrit Grijns Fund. This themed fund encourages groundbreaking research, education and entrepreneurship at the interface between food, nutrition and health.

Launched during the *IUNS-ICN International Congress of Nutrition*, the fund is named after Wageningen's greatest scientist Gerrit Grijns, co-discoverer of vitamin B1 and a founding father of modern nutritional science. The initiative is the brainchild of his great-grandsons Adriaan and Lambert Grijns, who are keen to continue his extraordinary scientific legacy for the future.

Chronic diseases are increasing rapidly all over the world. Half of all people in their 50s are already living with cancer or some other chronic condition. 1 in 3 suffers from cardiovascular diseases. The pressure on our healthcare system is continuing to grow. Yet many of these diseases are preventable. At Wageningen University & Research (WUR), scientists from many disciplines

are working to discover how food shapes our health. What makes WUR unique is that all the expertise is here: from molecular biology and nutritional science to data analysis, behaviour and field testing.

Linking these disciplines together will create collaborations in fundamental and/or applied research here, with a potentially groundbreaking impact on society's nutritional and health issues. But this is the kind of



research that often struggles to access regular funding, even though these issues demand immediate action.

"Our great-grandfather Gerrit Grijns transformed the lives of many millions of people with his discoveries. Thanks to his perseverance and out-of-the-box thinking, he became a pioneer in nutritional science, and that is the legacy we want to carry forward with this fund," says Lambert Grijns.

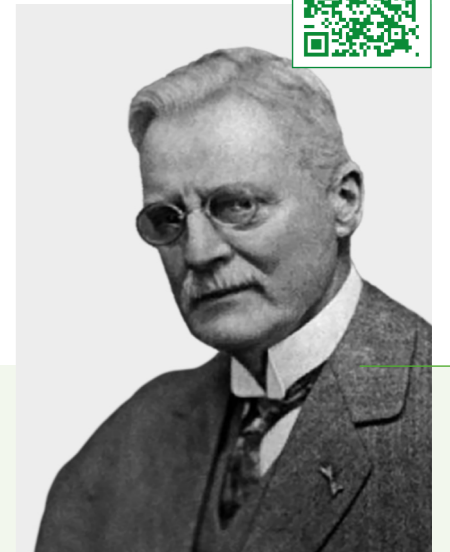
The Gerrit Grijns Fund's ambition is to mobilise at least €2 million over four years for ideas and initiatives with the potential to realise major scientific as well as societal breakthroughs. "These breakthroughs are badly needed," says Edith Feskens, Professor of Global Nutrition and Dean of Research at WUR. "About 20% of the incidence of diseases can be attributed to an unhealthy diet. Society will benefit greatly if we do something about this. But flexible funding is needed for this kind of research."

The brothers chose Wageningen not just because of the connection their great-grandfather had with the university. Adriaan Grijns: "We wanted to link our initiative to WUR because it is the leading research institute bar none in the field of nutritional science. The fund will benefit from the presence of world-class scientists in the field, as well as the global access the university provides to key projects and institutions worldwide."

## Your contribution to groundbreaking research

Would you like to contribute to a healthy future? With your support, researchers and students in Wageningen will have the space to push boundaries, develop new knowledge and make an impact on a global scale. This way, you will contribute directly to solutions to pressing issues relating to nutrition and health. Get in touch to discuss the possibilities for your contribution.

**More information:**  
[universityfundwageningen.eu/gerritgrijns](https://universityfundwageningen.eu/gerritgrijns)



### About Gerrit Grijns

Gerrit Grijns (28 May 1865 – 11 November 1944) was Professor of Animal Physiology at Wageningen from 1921 until his retirement in 1935. His contribution to the discovery of vitamins earned Gerrit Grijns an important place in the history of science. Grijns did much of his pioneering research in Indonesia. In 1896, he was appointed to continue the research of Christiaan Eijkman (who later won the Nobel Prize) at the Medical Laboratory in Batavia. Here, Grijns spent 3 years researching nutrition in chickens, hoping to discover an unknown substance in unpolished rice. He finally concluded that the disease beriberi was caused not by a harmful substance in white rice, as had been assumed until then, but rather by the absence of a substance: the protective factor that was removed when polishing rice, but which turned out to be essential for the metabolism of the nervous system. Grijns introduced the term 'partial hunger', demonstrating the existence of deficiency diseases. "Without Gerrit Grijns' research, we would not know about a core element of our health: vitamins," says the Deputy Ambassador to Indonesia.

# ENCOURAGING ENTREPRENEURSHIP

## *and an entrepreneurial mindset at WUR*

With the increasing complexity and urgency of global challenges, it is more important than ever to connect WUR's scientific insights to innovative startups. Startups are agile and can therefore significantly accelerate sustainable food systems, resilient ecosystems and a circular society.

Financial support is crucial in the incubation phase: to develop business models, make prototypes, conduct market surveys and acquire knowledge. However, funding is difficult to find at this stage. So, our changemakers' innovative solutions stall and problems remain unsolved.

With the support of our donors and partners, we encourage entrepreneurship at Wageningen University & Research. We offer funding, pitch competitions, mentoring and skills programmes to help young Wageningen entrepreneurs at different stages of entrepreneurship: from fostering innovative ideas to prototyping, developing a proposal and quantifying impact. We do not do this on our own, but actively cooperate

with various partners, such as Starthub Wageningen, part of WUR.

### Entrepreneurship in the curriculum

Making a societal impact requires an entrepreneurial mindset. Within both curricular programmes and extracurricular initiatives, students and PhD candidates at WUR learn to create impact and to realise their own potential. University Fund Wageningen contributes annually to several extracurricular entrepreneurship activities. Over the past 8 years, we have already contributed almost €750,000 to WUR Student Challenges: international student competitions in which interdisciplinary teams work intensively over a short period of time on a solution to a societal problem. Our

Wageningen Ambassadors, a special giving circle of alumni donors, also contribute annually to the Youth Food Lab (see page 12).



### Also want to contribute to entrepreneurship?

Together, we can help start and develop more initiatives that use Wageningen's knowledge to find answers to societal problems. Support entrepreneurship at WUR and make a difference to our innovative talented people! Contribute!  
[universityfundwageningen.eu/entrepreneurship](https://universityfundwageningen.eu/entrepreneurship)

### Wageningen Impact Catalyst

In 2024, together with Starthub Wageningen, we launched the Wageningen Impact Catalyst programme: a WUR pre-incubation programme that helps PhD candidates, employees, students and alumni develop scientific ideas into startups or social enterprises. The programme focuses on sustainable innovations and supports participants with early-stage training, mentoring and funding. In 2025, 26 new initiatives were launched within the programme, of which 10 were registered as enterprises with the Netherlands Chamber of Commerce.

### Pay-it-forward vouchers

In 2025, University Fund Wageningen issued our new Pay-it-forward vouchers for four initiatives within the programme, amounting to €36,000 in total. A pay-it-forward voucher is a donation to a startup, where the idea is that the entrepreneur will later make a – voluntary – gift to University Fund Wageningen if the enterprise becomes a success. By doing so, the entrepreneur actively contributes to opportunities for other/new startups at that time.

### Wageningen Pre-seed Fund

In 2026, together with WUR, we are launching a new alumni-backed investment fund, developed with Graduate Ventures: the Wageningen Pre-Seed Fund.

Early-stage agrifood, foodtech and sustainability startups already receive

### Lizzy Award

Every year, scores of young WUR entrepreneurs from the Wageningen Impact Catalyst programme and beyond exhibit at the Wageningen Impact Expo. Here, University Fund Wageningen presents the Lizzy Award to participating talented entrepreneurs, handing out 5 awards of €5,000 each in 2025. We also issued a voucher in 2025 thanks to a private donation. The recipient was Michele Tufano. You can read his story on the next page.

guidance from Starthub Wageningen and StartLife, but many still struggle to obtain the pre-seed and seed capital they need to grow. That is where the alumni community can play a crucial role.

Alumni can contribute by sharing their expertise, networks or financial support.

### Wageningen Entrepreneurship Grant

Every year, University Fund Wageningen organises the Wageningen Entrepreneurship Grant – a pitch competition in which twelve participating young entrepreneurs (students or graduates of <5 years) compete for two main prizes of €25,000 (Future Planet Award & Future Resources Award) and an audience prize of €7,500 (Get-Unstuck Award).

Donations to the pre-seed fund will help young enterprises take their first steps, while direct investment in the seed fund accelerates their path to market. Offering mentoring or opening doors via your network can be just as transformative for up-and-coming entrepreneurs.

# EATPOL

## *for food products people love*

Founder Michele Tufano envisions Eatpol as the go-to company for organisations looking to launch new food products. Today, around 85% of newly introduced food products disappear from the market within two years. Drawing on his PhD in AI and eating behaviour at Wageningen University & Research (WUR), Michele developed a method that allows products to be tested directly in people's kitchens, generating real-world insights. This approach helps food brands better understand their customers and create products that people love.

### From PhD to Eatpol

During his PhD, under the supervision of Guido Camps, Michele created software to measure how quickly people eat. He explains that eating more slowly is important because it gives the brain time to signal fullness, which can help reduce overall food consumption. Other researchers in the Human Nutrition and Health department at WUR study, for instance, how modifying food texture can encourage people to chew more. However, this type of analysis, like counting chews and bites, is often performed manually by students. Michele aimed to automate this process using an AI model. As he developed the technology, he began to see its broader

potential, and a PhD entrepreneurship course at WUR inspired him to pursue the idea as a spin-off from his research.

Today, Eatpol allows companies to analyse the full customer experience. It starts with an AI interviewer that asks targeted questions about the product the company wants to develop. This platform, for example, interprets branding labels and nutritional information and gives tailored advice. From there, testing participants document their full product journey at home on camera: opening the package, preparing the food, eating it, and storing it. The analysis of these real-life insights goes far beyond traditional sterile and artificial testing booths. In this way,

Eatpol aspires to help companies uncover the emotional, practical, and sensory drivers behind consumer decisions.

### Support turning research into reality

But, Michele didn't get there without help. He joined the Wageningen Impact Catalyst programme at Starhub Wageningen and received a Road to Innovation Grant and a WIC voucher, provided by a donation from a private donor via University Fund Wageningen. The grant and voucher allowed him to take the time to do market validation. He explains that this was an essential step. Through dozens of conversations with scientists and

industry professionals, he discovered that companies were not only interested in texture or eating speed, but in the entire customer journey: why consumers choose a product, how they prepare it, what they believe about it, and what makes them come back for more. Texture, in particular, emerged as a critical challenge for companies developing plant-based foods, where it often determines whether consumers accept or reject a product.

Just as valuable as the funding was the programme. Michele explains that the network that the programme offered allowed him to learn from other entrepreneurs. The programme, including the courses and the reading material, helped him on his way. He mentioned: 'You choose the level of commitment, so they give you the tools, and then it's up to you to put the work in.' For him, immersing himself in books made the difference, because 'in the end of the day you have to do the work yourself.' The experience not only shaped his own path but also inspired people around him to explore entrepreneurship. He believes that few people know what is possible at WUR, so he really recommends people to take the leap.

Eatpol is now an official WUR spin-off and has launched its first paid pilot and is working with OostNL and StartLife while expanding conversations with new clients. The vision is clear: to scale up the platform and support companies through ongoing partnerships and

yearly subscriptions. By putting real human experiences at the centre of product development, Michele and his team are helping companies create food that people don't just try once but choose, trust, and love.





# BABETTE

## The time machine for plant growth

During the Wageningen Impact Expo in August 2025, five young entrepreneurs won the Lizzy Award. They all received a cheque for € 5,000. One of them was Johan Bucher (centre in the photo), who won the prize with his plant time machine BABETTE. Thanks to this machine, researchers in Wageningen can fast-forward and rewind plant growth.

WUR-researcher Bucher, together with colleagues Matthijs Brouwer, Rick Hendriksen, Richard Visser, and Gerrit Polder, developed a modular platform called BABETTE, designed to capture the development and growth of plants in great detail. BABETTE is more than just a camera system; it is a fully equipped growth chamber that enables researchers to analyse plant development in a controlled environment.

Further development became possible when WUR launched its EngD programme, a two-year post-master's track focused on applying existing knowledge to technological innovations. This led to the involvement of the Technical Development Studio, an internal WUR lab dedicated to designing and producing unique equipment.

The new system design promises fresh insights for plant breeding, as many crucial stages of development are often missed when observing plants in open fields. Its potential extends to educational applications and beyond.

One of BABETTE's most remarkable features is the ability to "rewind" and "fast-forward" plant growth, a function Johan describes as a "time machine." This addresses a long-standing issue in plant research: the inability to revisit key growth stages once an experiment has ended. With BABETTE, researchers can accurately track development and re-examine specific moments.

Thanks to its modular design, BABETTE can easily be adapted to a wide range of research needs. The platform is suitable for both compact setups for smaller plants and extended versions for larger specimens. This flexibility makes BABETTE attractive to both research institutes and commercial partners, one system has already been sold, with more expected in the future.

Beyond research applications, BABETTE also adds value in education through an augmented reality app. And BABETTE is only the beginning. While scientific content will always remain central, its applications reach far beyond academia. Imagine virtual plants in games that grow realistically, or visualising a garden or park projected years into the future, BABETTE makes such possibilities tangible.

# FORMS of giving

Do you believe in the mission of Wageningen University & Research (WUR) and want to help create a more sustainable world through education and research? Whether you opt for a one-off donation, a regular gift, a named fund or a bequest to science, we will be happy to tell you more about what is possible.

If you have any questions about the ways of giving, call +31 317 48 40 54 or email [ufw@wur.nl](mailto:ufw@wur.nl)



## One-off gift

Any gift – big or small – is welcome. We are constantly looking at where we can use these contributions to make the greatest difference to talent, research and entrepreneurship at WUR. One way of contributing is through a one-off gift, in other words, an individual donation with no agreement attached, even if you donate more often. A customised arrangement is possible for larger donations.



## Starting your own collection

Will you soon be celebrating a birthday, anniversary, promotion or retirement? Or would you like to commemorate someone? Make it a special occasion by setting up a collection for a good cause within University Fund Wageningen. We look forward to help you come up with the finer details and think about who you can engage and how we can support you in promoting this.



## Structural support

University Fund Wageningen can also be supported structurally. You can choose to donate a fixed amount on a monthly or yearly basis. With a minimum annual contribution of €75, you become a Friend of the fund. As a Friend, you contribute to a wide range of activities that help students and young researchers develop themselves and take valuable steps in their careers. If you commit your structural donation for at least five years in a periodic donation agreement, it will be tax-deductible. Multi-year support gives us the opportunity to think strategically and plan ahead. Are you considering a larger contribution? We would be happy to work with you to find a tailor-made form of support that matches your wishes and level of involvement.



## Bequeathing

You can also include University Fund Wageningen in your will, thereby leaving (some of) your estate to the university. A bequest to WUR is an investment in the future – a lasting contribution to research, talent development and a more sustainable world for generations to come. It is a powerful way of continuing to make a difference after your death.



## Good to know!

*Due to our ANBI status, any donation is (partially) deductible from income tax or corporate tax, provided it is recorded in a five-year periodic donation agreement. This gives you the opportunity to donate more to WUR with the same net contribution. This is also the case if you are a living outside the Netherlands. Our foundation is part of Transnational Giving Europe and has an American Friends Fund that is accommodated by Myriad Foundation USA.*



## Crowdfunding

Our crowdfunding campaigns allow you to contribute directly to projects carried out by students and researchers at Wageningen University & Research. For example, the biodiversity restoration project in the Geul Valley in South Limburg received support in this way. Another example is the water filter project in Ukraine. At the onset of the Russian invasion, thousands of water filters were distributed to affected families.



## A named fund

A named fund is a special way to make a lasting contribution. You can set up your own from €250,000. Such a fund can support scientific research, enabling scholarships, travel grants or contributing to investments in startups. You decide the theme and purpose yourself, as long as it aligns with WUR's mission. In this way, during the lifetime of your own fund, you will also actively contribute to the ultimate impact of your donation. Would you prefer to contribute to an existing named fund? Let us know and we will be happy to tell you more about our active funds.

**'WAGENINGEN  
NEVER LEFT ME,  
and it's now in my will'**

For Anne Marjan Greve (67), Wageningen runs like a thread through her life. She was born and raised there. After secondary school, she left the city to explore the world, but eventually returned. Her familiarity and natural connection with the university are now behind her decision to include WUR in her will. 'It feels good to leave something behind to a place that has always been part of my life.'

Anne Marjan grew up in Wageningen-Hoog, a neighbourhood where the forest is just around the corner. Playing outside in nature was therefore something she took for granted. She would spend many afternoons identifying plants with her mother, who had a great knowledge of plants. "That's where my love of nature began," she says.

Her parents identified very strongly with Wageningen: both studied at the Agricultural College, which is where they met. The stories at the dinner table were often about student life, the city, the university and the people they met there. "I grew up in a Wageningen bubble. It wasn't something I consciously thought about; it was just part of who we were."

In secondary school, she opted for a science curriculum with mathematics, physics and chemistry. She loved to

“

*'The stories at the dinner table were often about student life, the city, the university and the people they met there'*

understand things, their cause and effect. And she was skilled with her hands, which made her mother suggest becoming a dentist. But when she was told, during a career information session, that women are better off

becoming dental hygienists, she immediately ditched the idea. "That was not for me," she says, looking back.

**Urge to stand on her own two feet**

As a teenager, she felt a strong need to get away from her familiar Wageningen surroundings. New impressions, new people: Anne Marjan wanted to learn about the big wide world. This desire took her to Delft, where she pursued a teacher training programme in biology and home economics. She enjoyed her time there, building a circle of friends and throwing herself wholeheartedly into student life.

A wish to gain more in-depth knowledge took her back to the city of her childhood when she decided to pursue a course in Home Economics there. It felt at once familiar and new. She knew Wageningen, but not as a student. Given that many of her friends lived in Delft, she did not have the busy student life that others experienced in Wageningen. "I didn't have to discover anything and had already had a student life; I simply came home."

While studying in Wageningen, she found out how broad many study programmes are. At a symposium, she saw all the places

that Wageningen alumni have ended up: from policymaking to business, from healthcare to the economy. It confirmed her impression of Wageningen. "You learn to look at problems from so many different perspectives. I found that inspiring."

**Pioneering in a world full of technology**

High unemployment in the 1980s saw her work opportunities dwindle. After a year of teaching in Amsterdam, she switched to an American automation company, a predecessor to Unisys. Computers were still in their infancy, and there was still a lot of inventing and explaining to do. Anne Marjan taught



*'I want people who have had fewer opportunities to be able to do something that makes their world bigger'*

courses, often while still figuring out for herself exactly how the software worked. "We were pioneers. I loved that. My mother was also into computers, and I thought: if my mother can do this, so can I."

**Leaving a legacy to WUR**

*A bequest to WUR is more than a gift. It is a sustainable investment in knowledge, progress and solutions that transcend generations. More information: [universityfundwageningen.eu/legacy](https://universityfundwageningen.eu/legacy)*



In 1990, she was asked to switch to human resources. HRM was still being developed in the Netherlands at the time, but the US company she worked for was ahead of the game. She learnt about performance management, organisational cultures and human dynamics: topics that continue to fascinate her.

The work turned out to suit her extremely well. Ten years later, she started her own consulting practice as an independent HRM consultant. From 2000, she worked in this capacity for numerous organisations, each time with shorter commitments. "The variety, independence and sharp learning curve suited my character perfectly. And I often joked that my sell-by date was fast approaching." After 25 years, she stopped working. These days, she spends her time teaching nature classes at IVN, among other things.

**Thinking about bequeathing: a decision that grew**

When she moved back to Wageningen from Amsterdam 15 years ago and sat in the civil-law notary's office to sign the deeds to the house she had just bought, she was asked if she had a will. That set her off on a relatively long process. "I had to think about it, and it was not solely a rational process. It was also really a feeling."

Two years later, she started writing things down. A memory from her school days came back to her, with a geography teacher talking about global inequality. What he said had stayed with her: 'Don't give people a fish, but a fishing rod to fish with'. "That principle guided my ideas about bequeathing."

**Why bequeath to WUR?**

Nature, environment, health, nutrition and sustainability are themes that Anne Marjan considers important. "These themes run like a thread through WUR's work, and that makes it an obvious choice for me." Part of her estate will therefore go to the university, and she is not specifying exactly what it must be spent on. "I don't want to rule from beyond the grave. The people who work here will know better than I do where the money is needed later on."

It feels right to her to direct some of her wealth towards something that can help the world move forward more broadly. "I want people who have had fewer opportunities to be able to do something that makes their world bigger. Be it studies, research or a trip, that doesn't matter to me. As long as it takes them further forward."

**Life lessons for later generations**

Anne Marjan lives next door to a student house. In the conversations

she has with them, her advice is always down-to-earth and encouraging: "Choices are never for the rest of your life. There will always be another intersection." She herself still sees her decision to become an independent consultant as a good move. "I felt then that I had full ownership of my own journey. The worst that can happen is usually something you can still manage. That's a confidence I am happy to pass on."



# SUPPORT A CAUSE

## *within University Fund Wageningen*

In 2025, University Fund Wageningen managed 22 named funds that contribute to promoting talent, enabling groundbreaking research, and fostering innovative entrepreneurship within Wageningen University & Research.

Through these various funds, students, (young) researchers, and alumni of Wageningen University & Research have the opportunity to gain (international) experience or strengthen their position in the job market, and international students can study in Wageningen with a scholarship. Each donor who establishes a named fund can choose a cause, as long as it aligns with the general objective of University Fund Wageningen. Discover all current named funds (as of 2026).

## Talent

### **Anne van den Ban Fund**

Enables promising students from developing countries to pursue MSc-education at WUR.

### **Dairy Science & Technology Fellowship**

Encourages students to follow the MSc specialisation in Dairy Science & Technology. In 2025, the last MSc scholarships from this fund were awarded. These students will graduate in 2027.

### **Fund Niels Smith**

Provides an annual boost to a young talented athlete to combine their passion with their studies. In 2026 the last grants will be awarded.

### **Future Animal Nutrition Africa (FANA) Fund**

Offers African students the opportunity to pursue an MSc in Animal Nutrition in Wageningen.

### **Gijsbert Oomen Fund**

Supports Indonesian students in financing their MSc studies at WUR.

### **LEB Travel Fund**

Subsidizes international activities for Wageningen PhD candidates.

### **Louise O. Fresco Fund**

Provides financial support to students in emergency situations.

## Research

### **Marina van Damme Fund**

Supports talented female WUR alumni in the next step or turn in their careers.

### **Middelhoven Fund**

Enables students and staff to fund an internship or study trip abroad in the field of microbiology.

### **Nico Buisman Fund**

Provides scholarships in environmental technology.

### **Paul Speijer Fund**

Offers African students the opportunity to pursue an MSc in Plant Sciences in Wageningen.

### **Pavlos Condellis Fund**

Provides scholarships to excellent Greek students to pursue an MSc at WUR.

### **Van Rumpt Scholarship Fund**

Provides scholarships for MSc students in Biosystems Engineering from developing countries.

### **Gerrit Grijns Fund**

Stimulates interdisciplinary research to address societal issues around food, nutrition and health.

### **Huub en Julienne Spiertz (HJS) Fund**

Invests in young agrobiologists and crop scientists to promote research in sustainable food production. In 2025 the last grants are awarded.

### **Lucie Timmermans Fund**

Supports the development of young researchers at WUR in experimental zoology, animal cell biology, entomology, and animal physiology.

### **Storm – van der Chijs Fund**

Stimulates and supports female scientists at WUR in their work and careers.

### **Rob Goldbach Fund**

Broadly promotes Wageningen virology to prevent and combat viral diseases of plants and animals.

### **Neys – van Hoogstraten Fund**

Supports socio-economic research on food and nutrition security in Asia.

## Other

### **Fund Wageningen Ambassadors**

A group of prominent WUR alumni who aim to bridge the gap between WUR and society by leveraging their network, experience, and financial resources.

### **KLV-Fund**

Provides financial support of one-time activities and new initiatives that help alumni strengthen their knowledge and skills in the WUR domains.



Are you interested in establishing a named fund or want to learn more about our current named funds?

Please visit [universityfundwageningen.eu/namedfunds](https://universityfundwageningen.eu/namedfunds)

# KLV-FUND

*The story of the oak processionary caterpillar reflects our relationship with nature*

Thanks to support from the KLV-Fund, alumnus Jeffrey van Houten was given a chance to shoot unique footage of a creature that many people would happily see the back of: the oak processionary caterpillar. After seeing the caterpillar through the lens of his camera, however, Jeffrey van Houten hopes that people will think differently about it. "My job was to give non-human life a voice."

Jeffrey van Houten was asked two years ago to join director Rik van der Linden in making a LIFE+<sup>1</sup> documentary about the oak processionary caterpillar. This piqued his interest immediately: "The oak processionary caterpillar is a fascinating creature. Its presence, irritating to humans, is actually a sign of ecological imbalance." The pair worked together for two years, with their documentary *Een gemeenschap van Leven* (A Community of Life) as the end result.

## A fundamental discussion in landscape management

The documentary explains where problems lie in landscape management in the Netherlands from the perspective

of the oak processionary caterpillar. "Diversity is the key. In large, diverse forests, the caterpillar causes very little nuisance. Our problem comes from having a monotonously designed landscape, such as long avenues of oak trees. Allowing more diversity and mowing less rigorously creates more balance. That is a fundamental discussion that goes further than one species."

## From stinging hairs and failures to going viral on social media

Regular funding for nature documentaries is highly competitive. Without support from the KLV-Fund, Van Houten would not have managed to collect so much footage of the

caterpillar. He captured unique material: never before had the crawling of the oak processionary caterpillar from its nest been caught on camera. He did have a few issues: from stinging hairs on his arms to a complete failure in the first year when nothing emerged from the nests. In year two, fortunately, he was more successful.

He and Rik van der Linden also interviewed nature philosopher Matthijs Schouten by the Wodan Oaks in Wolfheze (pictured above). In the documentary, Schouten talks, among other things, about how our thinking has been shaped by an old philosophical worldview where humans are at the top. In other traditions

– such as Buddhism – the attitude towards nature is much more humble. He believes that we need to learn to participate in the world alongside the oak processionary caterpillar, as equals.

Part of the interview did not make it into the documentary, but Van der Linden posted the video on LinkedIn. "Those images went viral: 300,000 viewers, three quarters of whom watched the entire 10 minutes. Matthijs Schouten has been saying the same thing for 40 years, but now it is really hitting home. People are feeling that things need to change, like with the transition in agriculture."

## Winning awards

Van Houten and Van der Linden did not want to depend on a commercial producer to distribute the documentary, so they kept it in-house. That also

meant that they had to distribute it themselves. Fortunately, the documentary turned out to have huge appeal. They also received a lot of support from people such as Anne Leeftang, initiator of this documentary and project manager at NatuurCollege, of which Schouten is one of the founders. "We have about 10,000 visitors now and that number will only increase this year. The combination of the story and the image touches people. We help people realise what is going on."

The documentary also won two awards at the Wildlife Film Festival Rotterdam, including the Audience Award, and it has been screened at the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality (LNV), the Province of Gelderland, municipalities in Brabant and a science festival in Antwerp. "It is really serving as a conversation starter for topics like the nitrogen crisis and the

agricultural transition – exactly what we were hoping for."

## About Jeffrey van Houten

Documentary maker Jeffrey van Houten (MSc Forest and Nature Management, 2018) was already fascinated by nature as a child. As a teenager, he dabbled a lot in nature photography and videography. He studied forest and nature management in Wageningen to expand his knowledge of the subject matter, but he never abandoned his wish to be a documentary maker. Thanks to the good support of his study adviser in Wageningen, among others, he managed to combine his studies with his passion and contributed to special film projects even during his studies. His Wageningen knowledge means that he is a good conversationalist for the people he interviews on camera, knows the right questions to ask and is able to show nature in all its glory.



## About the KLV-Fund

The KLV-Fund supports activities organised by WUR alumni. The fund was established using the remaining assets of the disbanded alumni association KLV. Activities eligible for support stimulate public debate within the WUR domain, promote innovative collaboration between alumni, study groups and the academic world, and strengthen networks and career support for alumni. **More information and donations: [universityfundwageningen.eu/klv-fund](https://universityfundwageningen.eu/klv-fund)**



<sup>1</sup> LIFE+ is a European Commission programme designed to co-fund the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of European environmental and nature policy.

# ANNUAL ACCOUNT

*The abridged financial statement provides an overview of our income and expenses in 2025.*

## Principles for valuation for the balance sheet

University Fund Wageningen's financial statement is drawn up in accordance with the Dutch Council for Annual Reporting's guideline RJ 650 for fundraising institutions. The assets and liabilities are valued at nominal value unless otherwise specified. The financial fixed assets are valued at market price. Claims are valued at nominal value, where necessary minus a provision for recoverability. The equity capital includes a division between reserves and funds. The continuity reserve is intended for guaranteeing the continuity of the organisation. The earmarked funds are a segregated part of the committed assets, the spending options are determined in consultation determined with donors.

## Principles for result determination

Taking into account the valuation principles, the result is determined as the difference between the income

from in-house fundraising, third-party actions and other income, minus the expenses throughout the year. Unless specified otherwise, the income and expenses are accounted for in the year to which they relate.

## Audit statement

The financial statement was compiled by Verenigen Beheer Nederland BV. It was assessed and provided by an audit statement by Schuurman & de Leeuw Accountants in Wageningen. The purport of the audit statement is: "We assess that the financial statement in this annual report gives an accurate insight into the scope and composition of the capital of Stichting University Fund Wageningen on 31 December 2025 and the result over 2025 in accordance with the guidelines for financial reporting, and Guideline 650 for fundraising institutions in particular." The board has approved the annual account in its meeting of 1 April 2026.

## Balance on 31 December 2025

Assets	
Financial fixed assets	7,432,550
Receivables	55,614
Liquidities	6,197,545
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,685,711</b>
Liabilities	
Foundation capital	552,731
Continuity reserve	1,153,854
Funds	11,934,696
Short-term debts	44,430
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,685,711</b>

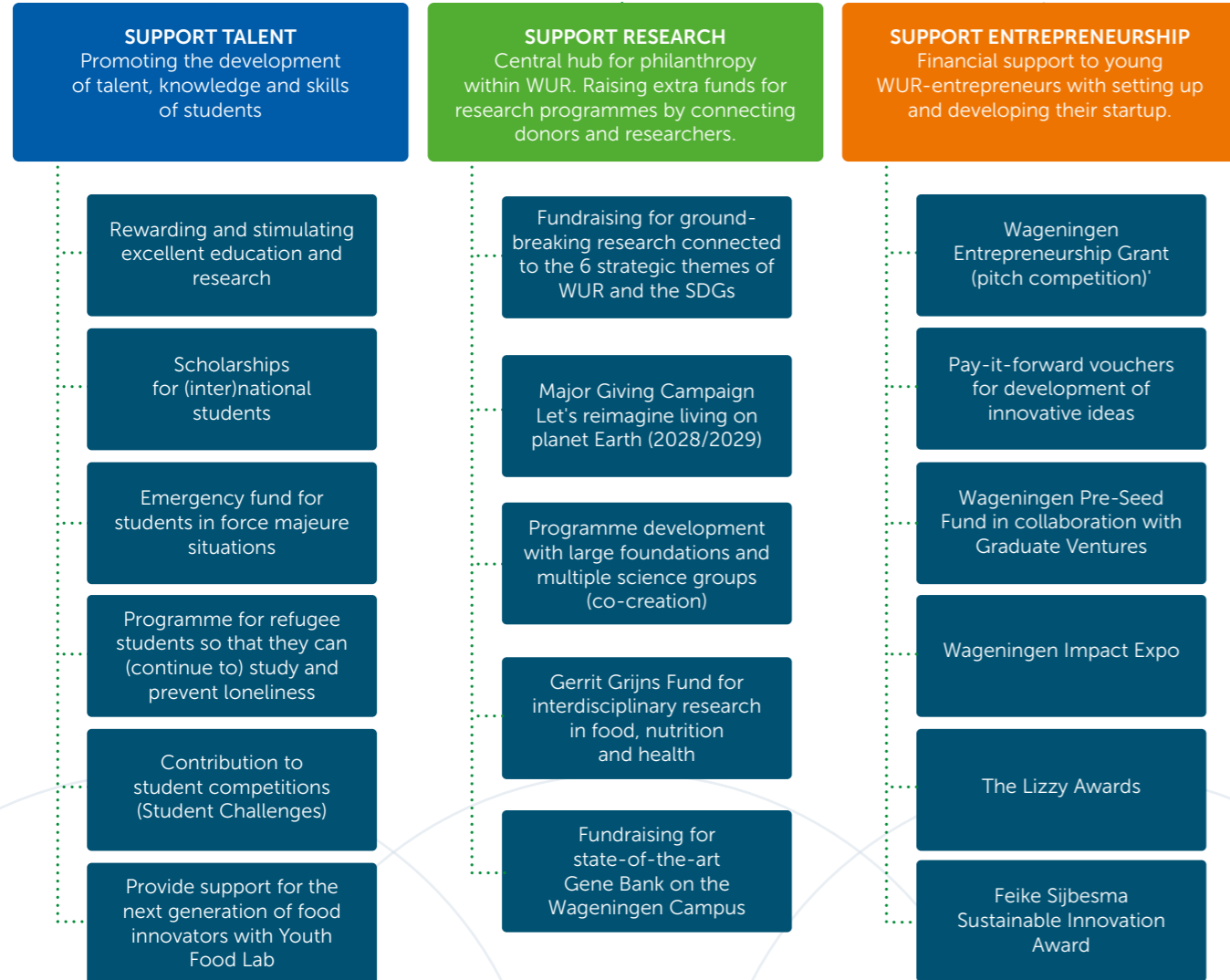
## Fund progress

Named funds	
Balance on 1 January	4,246,141
On: Received donations	365,897
On: Interest	17,211
On: investment returns and dividends	117,880
Off: Expenses/advance	-483,100
<b>Balance on 31 December</b>	<b>4,264,028</b>
Regular giving	
Balance on 1 January	751,010
On: Received donations	930,121
Off: Expenses/advance	-688,352
<b>Balance on 31 December</b>	<b>992,779</b>
Projects	
Balance on 1 January	3,807,275
On: Received donations	7,889,941
Off: Expenses/advance	-5,019,325
<b>Balance on 31 December</b>	<b>6,677,890</b>

## State of income and expense in 2025

Income	
Income from private individuals	995,092
Income from companies	0
Income from other nonprofit organisations	8,606,484
Benefits in kind	851,846
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,453,421</b>
Expenses	
Spent on causes	
Named funds	483,100
Regular giving	688,352
Projects	5,019,325
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,190,777</b>
Recruitment costs from benefits in kind	851,846
Management and administration costs for account UFW	257,622
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,300,245</b>
<b>Financial income and expenses</b>	<b>195,554</b>
<b>BALANCE OF INCOME AND EXPENSES</b>	<b>3,348,731</b>
Addition/reduction	
Designation fund Named Funds	17,886
Designation fund Regular Giving	241,771
Designation fund: Projects	2,870,616
<b>MUTATION CONTINUITY RESERVE</b>	<b>218,458</b>

# UNIVERSITY FUND WAGENINGEN



**Board (from left to right)**

- Jacqueline Pieters-Zetsma - chair
- Willem de Feijter - treasurer
- Sebastiaan Berendse - member
- Joost de Laat - member
- Harry Paul - member (until April 2026)
- Drees Peter van den Bosch - member



**Team**

- Lies Boelrijk - Director
- Fanny Castel - Relationship Manager Trusts & Foundations
- Maruscha Clarke - Grant Development Manager Trusts & Foundations
- Daniëlle Grashuis - Relationship & Event Manager
- Marleen Kesting - Database Officer
- Esther Kloppenberg-Fakkert - Financial Officer
- Margriet Komrij - Campaign Marketer
- Guus Loomans - Relationship Manager Major Donors & Impact Investors
- Annegreet Ottow-Boekeloo - (interim) Grant Development Manager Trusts & Foundations
- Florence Taaka - Relationship Manager Trusts & Foundations
- Sacha Tijnstra - Communications Advisor



- Harry Verwaaijen - Relationship Manager Private donations and legacies
- Anne Zaal - Coordinator Awards & Board Affair
- Jelte Zeilstra - Controller

**Student-assistants**

- Hugo Beentjes
- Elisa Diepenbroek
- Marrit Gustafsson
- Marijn de Wit

