



# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

New African  
leaders in the  
food system

**BIG GIFTS**

Soil regenerator  
wins innovation  
award

**AWARD**

€ 200,000 for  
clean drinking  
water Ukraine

**CROWDFUNDING**

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# Dear friends and partners

WUR is facing an enormous challenge to find answers to social issues such as climate change, healthy living, the loss of biodiversity, food security and food waste. There is a tipping point when it comes to the use of our planet and if we wish to have a future here, we need to change. As science plays a crucial part in finding solutions, philanthropy can play a vital supporting role.

University Fund Wageningen connects donors with the work and people of Wageningen University & Research (WUR). This additional philanthropic funding helps realise and accelerate projects and talents that are not (fully) eligible for regular funding.

Thanks to the support of our donors, we can finance more socially relevant research, offer scholarships to students from low-income countries who cannot afford their own education, provide a platform to talented students and scientists, enable extracurricular types of education such as student challenges, and support student entrepreneurs and young alumni in realising crucial innovations. By enhancing all these activities, we increase the impact of WUR and help realise the overall Wageningen mission. In 2022, University Fund Wageningen started a repositioning process based on the separation of Alumni Relations and Fundraising. This separation was completed during the course of the year at an administrative & policy level and with regard to responsibilities and executive organisation. The ambition of WUR and the Fund is to further shape and expand philanthropic funding in the coming years. As an independent foundation, the fund plays a central role herein, organising and implementing ways to attract and distribute philanthropic funding for WUR.

Nineteen research projects within WUR were funded by donations from foundations via the University Fund in 2022. This annual report shares various stories about these unique projects. In addition, UFW was awarded six new major donations from foundations in 2022, with a total value of approximately €10 million. These will allow us to continue realising pioneering new research projects in the coming years.

You can also read about our crowdfunding activities, including a project for water filters in Ukraine for which we raised around €200,000 in 2022. In addition, student Fredrick Sammo shares his dream of becoming an animal nutrition specialist in Tanzania. He is currently studying in Wageningen thanks to a scholarship, one of 17 students who would not have had this chance without our financial support. Another 26 students, scientists and alumni were

awarded prizes and stipends in 2022 allowing them to further develop their talent. This includes three business awards to enable starting (student) entrepreneurs to further develop their sustainable innovations. All this and more is covered in our latest annual report. We wouldn't be able to share these projects and activities without the many generous donations to the mission of Wageningen. And therefore, on behalf of the WUR-students, researchers and entrepreneurs, I'd like to thank our donors for their contribution in funds, time and talent. I hope you enjoy the read!

**Lies Boelrijk,**  
Director University Fund Wageningen



Foto Diane Kulken

# What do our figures say?

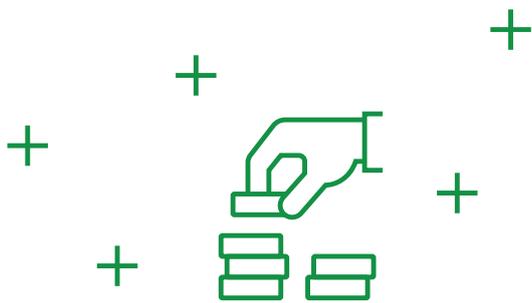
## Income from fundraising



Campaigns | Crowdfunding | Legacies | Private donors | Trusts & Foundations

# € 6,259,706

## Fundraising



# € 9,820,000

New multi-year pledges

## Spend



€ 507,038  
Education



€ 127,678  
Entrepreneurship



€ 5,139,888  
Research



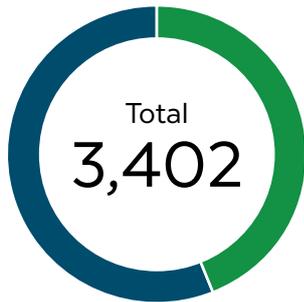
€ 89,848  
Other



Four students won the Thesis Award in 2022. Pictured, left to right jury member Oene Oenema, director Lies Boelrijk, overall winner Corentin Bisot, winners Selena Koene and Sanne Put, and jury member Wim Heijman. Winner Carolina Sarzana joined the ceremony online from Senegal. | Photo Guy Ackermans

### Regular donors

- 1,906  
Number of regular donors
- 1,496  
One-off donors



*“It’s essential to spend funds on the things that have the greatest effect. The future is for the young.”*

- Han Swinkels, contributes to Thesis Award (among others) as Friends of University Fund Wageningen.

### Activities, partnerships & volunteers

3

Crowdfunding projects



19

Research projects



Partnerships with **16**  
Trusts & Foundations



**28**  
Named funds



**113**  
volunteers involved



**62** talented people  
supported with scholarship  
or award

“My goal is to help farmers increase their production”

**Fredrick Sammo** is taking a Master's in Animal Sciences in Wageningen with a scholarship from University Fund Wageningen. After graduation, Fredrick hopes to become a specialist in nutrition for pigs and poultry: “In my country, there are very few experts in that field. I hope to advise farmers on proper nutrition and help them increase production in a sustainable way.”

Photo Guy Ackermans



## SCHOLARSHIPS

Fredrick grew up in a village in the northern part of Tanzania with his parents, both non-commercial farmers, and his nine siblings. After secondary school, he took a government loan to study Animal Sciences at Sokoine University of Agriculture. Continuing his master's at this university did not feel right to Fredrick: "I wanted to really challenge myself by going abroad, gain a fresh perspective and see what education systems and lab facilities in developed countries looked like."

Fredrick had heard about Wageningen before, and after learning it was the best agricultural university in the world, he set his mind to pursuing a master's degree there. "I started applying for scholarships in 2015, but there were so many applications each year I didn't get accepted." For years he worked while waiting for a scholarship, first in a feed formula company for pigs and poultry, then as an assistant tutor at his university. He was also able to follow an internship in the United States at a commercial pig farm. In 2021 came the good news that Fredrick had been awarded a scholarship from the Future Animal Nutrition Africa Fund via University Fund Wageningen. "I had to let the fund know whether I wanted to accept the scholarship and remember I thinking: 'Why would anyone not accept?'"

Studying in Wageningen has been a challenge for Fredrick as the educational methods differ greatly from those in Tanzania. "There you must simply memorise the theory and learn how to use certain equipment. In Wageningen we are applying knowledge to different real-life situations." While this makes studying in Wageningen a good preparation for his working life, it also takes much more effort. "But I believe that if other people can do something, I can do it too. And if people are passing these courses, so can I. If people are finishing a master's program and getting their PhD, then I will be able to do so too. Studying here is very fulfilling as I'm pushing my limits and learning a lot."

Fredrick hopes to continue with his PhD after graduating so that he can teach at his previous University in Sokoine and hopefully be a specialist in pig and poultry nutrition: "There are few experts in that field in my country. I want to be able to give farmers advice on proper feeds. The right feed in livestock farming is crucial and I can help them make more profit." This can be done in a more sustainable way as well, according to Fredrick. "Right now, most of our waste streams are not utilised at all. A lot of fruits are thrown away, for example, which could be fed to animals. I want to explore alternative protein



Fredrick Sammo (centre, with hat) with the first-year and second-year Master's students who studied at Wageningen in 2022 with a scholarship from one of our named funds such as the FANA Fund and Anne van den Ban Fund. Photo Guy Ackermans



Fredrick is aiming to become a specialist in sustainable feed for pigs and poultry | Photo Guy Ackermans

*“I want to research alternative sources of protein for animal feed such as black soldier fly larvae, which can replace soybean and fish meal. These can convert organic waste into proteins and therefore be used as sustainable animal feed.”*

animal feed sources such as black soldier fly larvae (BSFL) that can replace soybean meal and fish meal. I think that the use of BSFL has real potential in East Africa as it can valorise organic wastes into protein to be used as sustainable animal feed. This contributes to the second Sustainable Development Goal of creating a world free of hunger.”

If it weren't for the scholarship, Fredrick would have never been able to study in Wageningen. “I don't think I could make that much money in my entire working life in Tanzania.” This scholarship supports students as they develop themselves and become knowledge leaders in

their home country. Fredrick will soon be helping farmers in Tanzania make a better living and taking steps towards using sustainable animal feed. ●



**More information**

[universityofwageningen.eu/scholarships](https://www.universityofwageningen.eu/scholarships)

African Food Fellowship

# Connects new generation of leaders for food system change

How to change food systems in Africa so that everyone has fair access to healthy and sustainable food? The African Food Fellowship brings together a new generation of African professionals to turn passionate effort into system change. We look back on the first two years of the Fellowship in Kenya and Rwanda.



“There are plenty of good intentions, strategies and agendas to achieve food systems change in Africa,” says Joost Guijt, Director of the African Food Fellowship and Knowledge Manager at Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation, part of Wageningen University & Research “The problem is implementation. We need a new generation of leaders in the African agri-food sector to translate plans into real systemic changes and to stand firm for these changes.”

That new generation is now coming together in the African Food Fellowship. In 2021, two groups of thirty professionals each in Kenya and Rwanda became Fellows, starting their leadership journey with the 10-month Food Systems Leadership Programme before graduating into respective country food fellowships.

The Fellowship recruited two new groups of forty in 2022. The aim of the initiative is to help participants work on shifts in policy, influence, investment and implementation together. Guijt: “We paid a lot of attention to the content of food system transformation and how leaders can act on it. We then work with Fellows to make this relevant for their daily jobs.”

## Close community

Two years after its launch, a lot has been achieved, according to Guijt: “First of all, we see that the Fellows present themselves much more emphatically as leaders of food system transition. They look fundamentally differently at the meaning of their work. Many have moved from working on isolated problems in the food system, to now focus more on the



Urbanus Kamuti and Leah Mwaura at a vertical garden demonstrating regenerative technologies for growing traditional vegetables in Mwala, Machakos County. Leah, a Horticulture Fellow with the African Food Fellowship, promotes the use of vertical gardens to grow multiple crops in limited space | Photo African Food Fellowship

drivers for system change. Equally important, a strong reciprocity has developed between Fellows in both countries. They often felt alone and insecure in their roles and knew little or nothing of each other's existence. Because they found each other through the Fellowship, they draw courage and ideas from each other. We are seeing many cross-pollinations between actors that were not there before."

### **Dealing better with stakeholders**

Ruth Lewo Mwababu, a business developer in the Kenyan aquaculture sector, is an Aquaculture Fellow of the African Food Fellowship. She says that she benefits greatly from the programme in her work: "First of all, the Fellowship taught me new skills and capacities for

dealing with complex issues. If you want to bring aquaculture to local communities, you have to deal with many parties: from farmers, the local administration and policy makers to input suppliers. The Fellowship programme enables me to better deal with these stakeholders, both individually and as a group. I zoom out, zoom in and bring parties back to the table."

Ruth particularly encourages medium-level technical food system professionals to apply for the African Food Fellowship. These, she says, have the necessary sector experience and recognise the challenges at hand: "If you want to grow and expand your capabilities, this Fellowship is for you. Especially if you have an open mind and the ambition to become a critical thinker. It helps if you

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*"The fellowship has taught me new skills for tackling complex issues."*

- Ruth Lewo Mwababu

have already worked with different agricultural sub-sectors.”

### Historic donation makes expansion possible

After a one-and-a-half-year pilot, a follow-up was again supported by the IKEA Foundation in 2022 with a donation of € 8.8 million – a historically high gift to University Fund Wageningen. The plan is to start a new group every year in both countries for at least the next five years. This means the Fellowship will be expanded annually with a new layer. In addition, preparations are underway to scale up to another seven countries on the African continent. The focus is on supporting enthusiastic Fellows in the more effective initiation and development

of system-changing actions. By 2027 nearly 1000 Fellows will have taken the Food Systems Leadership programme to continue in a continental network of national Food Fellowships.

University Fund Wageningen supported and facilitated Joost Guijt in developing the proposal, setting up the donation agreements, and in other legal and tax matters. During the project, the fund also provided support with reporting and accountability to the IKEA Foundation. “There is lots involved in creating a proposal at this level of ambition and scope,” says Joost. “Not just intrinsically, but also with regards to budget, administration and legal aspects. We succeeded thanks to the huge efforts of all the stakeholders and professional teams

*“There is lots involved in creating a proposal at this level of ambition and scope. Without all the dedication and cooperation, we wouldn’t have been able to make it work.”*

*- Joost Guijt*



Kaze Ange is an Access to Nutritious Food Fellow and an entrepreneur, running a bakery in Kigali, Rwanda | Photo African Food Fellowship

at WCDI and UFW. Without their dedication and cooperation, we wouldn't have been able to make it work." ●

## Philanthropic fundraising

One of our main goals for the coming years is to be the WUR's central organisation in the field of strategic relation management with philanthropic partners as well as the expert in the field of philanthropic fundraising. Our approach centres on establishing a personal relationship with our business relations: *friendraising before fundraising*. Via careful and long-term relationships we aim to establish partnerships which have an impact and help realise pioneering research within WUR. We also provide support to scientists in developing and submitting proposals for large-scale international (philanthropic) organisations. In doing so, we contribute to the transitions necessary for a sustainable world.

### More information

[universityfundwageningen.eu/research](https://universityfundwageningen.eu/research)



## Six modules, Ten months - More than a one-off programme

The African Food Fellowship, a joint initiative of Wageningen University & Research and Wasafiri Consulting and supported by the IKEA Foundation and University Fund Wageningen, starts with a 10-month intensive leadership programme. In six modules, Fellows gain insight into food systems in their broad context and learn how to ensure systemic change. Besides some physical networking meetings, most of the programme is online. "Corona initially made this a necessity," Guijt explains. "Gradually we discovered that this allowed us to reach people all over Kenya and Rwanda with the programme and not just from one or two cities."

The leadership programme is the gateway to a long-term Fellowship. These country food fellowships are supported networks where Fellows can continue to connect and collaborate as they continue their leadership journeys. An annual Transform Food Festival, food systems action prizes, inspiration sessions and more are part of what the African Food Fellowship is experimenting with to elevate the efforts of its Fellows. Solid research carried out by the Fellowship is seeking evidence on how passionate, competent, accountable leadership can really transform food systems, so they provide personal and planetary health and healthy prospects for many.



The first group of Fellows from Rwanda graduated in 2022 | Photo African Food Fellowship

## Learning about biodiversity in the zoo

Education in zoos can help children better understand and support biodiversity. This was the result of research financed by donations to University Fund Wageningen from Stichting Zabawas and Ouweland Zoo Foundation. "While many children have heard of biodiversity, studies show that teachers and students alike don't really understand what it is," says Rebekah Tauritz, researcher at the Education and Learning Group in Wageningen. She has developed an educational programme for children in the senior classes at elementary schools. After a series of lessons, students are asked to describe biodiversity in their own words, explain why it is in danger and suggest ways in which they can respond. "Observing animals in the zoo was the best part," says Fiene (13). "This visit was different as I had learned about biodiversity and brought a book which helped me look at the animals in a fresh way." The preliminary results from the research indicate the importance of having the zoo class embedded in the teaching programme. A visit to the zoo alone is not as beneficial, says Tauritz: "Actively preparing pupils in the classroom ensures understanding and engagement." Essential elements included stories, videos and images



Photo Sveya Dieker

of eight endangered animal species including (of course) the giant panda. The arrival of the panda in the Rhenen zoo started the project off. After taking the classes, the students were eager to do more for biodiversity, even if they were not yet sure how. "That's precisely why we also focus on setting up a simple action plan during the lessons," adds Tauritz. The Bio-diversi-WAT?! teaching programme was offered just before the summer of 2022 to all zoos which are members of the Dutch Zoo Federation as well as Dutch nature and environment education centres. ●

## Novo Nordisk Foundation visits WUR with wish to accelerate green transition



Photo Daniëlle Grashuis

In March 2022, University Fund Wageningen hosted a delegation from the Danish Novo Nordisk Foundation (NNF) to show them around the campus and introduce some of the research conducted at WUR.

The NNF is a major research funder in Denmark, supporting 11% of the country's public research in 2020, and has a long history of funding in the biomedical and biotechnological sectors. Since 2019, the foundation has been developing a more internationally oriented strategy and venturing into new focus areas related to the Wageningen domains with the goal of helping accelerate the green transition. In order to achieve this, the NNF plans to partner with leading global research institutions and sees WUR as a front-line player.

During the visit, delegates were introduced to the different WUR's expertise domains, with a focus on plant and food sciences. They toured various facilities and met with several chairholders and senior researchers who presented WUR's strategic themes. How the

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research infrastructure is organised at WUR and in the Netherlands was a topic of discussion and we also showed how the University Fund makes a difference together with philanthropic partners.

The NNF team was very positive about the visit. "I am impressed by the enormous knowledge and capacity available at WUR and its pragmatic approach to having an impact on society," stated a scientific program manager at the end of the two-day visit. "Wageningen really is an internationally renowned institute within agriculture, plant and food science."

In addition to laying a good foundation for future

collaborations, the visit resulted in an agreement to jointly develop a new plant-based food program. Called Plant2Food, this collaboration platform came into being at the start of 2023. It sees WUR working with three Danish universities, the Food & Bio Cluster Denmark, other research institutions and the business community to accelerate the transition to a more plant-based diet. ●

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## CRISPR-Cas crop technology for climate-proof rice

Climate change and a growing global population are creating a risk of food shortages in the near future. This is why scientists are looking hard for ways to make crops more resistant to salinisation and extreme weather conditions, resulting in higher yields. New technologies in plant breeding may provide the answer. Thanks to donations from Nieuwe Waarde Foundation and a private donor, WUR scientists are now ready to make rice more climate-proof. They will do so by means of CRISPR-Cas, a technology that makes it possible to change genetic material from viruses, bacteria, cells, plants and animals in a relatively simple but highly accurate and efficient way. Using this crop technology, the scientists will optimise the so-called ThermoCas9 enzyme which was recently discovered in a compost heap in Ede. The enzyme will be used to make rice more resistant to drought and salinisation. WUR will be partnering with the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) in the Philippines to test the enzyme. In order to take a firm step towards food security, WUR will be providing the license for ThermoCas9 to non-profit organisations for free, instead of patenting it for high user costs. The university hopes this will



Photo Shutterstock

stimulate a global change in policy related to intellectual property from CRISPR-Cas. As an exception, University Fund Wageningen actively raised funds to finance this specific project as regular funding was not possible. Thanks to these philanthropic donations, WUR was able to take another significant step in its research into food security opportunities. ●

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## Grant management

As part of integrated relationship management, University Fund Wageningen is responsible for the process of grant management when receiving philanthropic donations for WUR research projects. This ranges from due diligence procedures and drawing up donor agreements to monitoring reports, facilitating meetings between donors and researchers, and streamlining project-related communication.

# Slovakian soil regenerator wins Feike Sijbesma Sustainable Innovation Award

The Feike Sijbesma Sustainable Innovation Award was presented for the first time in 2022, a prize for international startups focused on tackling global challenges in our food system. The startups must have a good business case and realise a large-scale transformation for as many people as possible. Moreover, they must have been founded less than seven years ago and be environmentally friendly.



CEO of ekolive Darina Štyriaková (centre) with Feike Sijbesma (right) and jury chair Louise O. Fresco at the award presentation in 2022 | Photo Guy Ackermans

The Slovakian startup *ekolive* was announced as the winner of the first edition. The company convinced the jury with its interdisciplinary biotechnological approach to clean contaminated and regenerate depleted soil, and use the by-product of this process as an organic biostimulant in agriculture. This opens up new sources of raw materials for industrial minerals and returns used raw materials to the value cycle, while also increasing production and nutritional value in agriculture. The technology contributes to as many as 11 of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, making *ekolive* precisely the sort of inspiring sustainable innovators the jury was looking for.

"I am very happy," said the company's CEO Darina Štyriaková after the ceremony. "This award is a recognition of our work, and we hope the prize will help us reach new markets, especially in the Netherlands." Štyriaková received € 25,000 to invest in the startup, but far more valuable for her are the networking opportunities and the recognition. Since receiving this prize the team has gone on to win more accolades, including the BASF Innovation Award. In addition, *ekolive* has been accepted into the

“Farmers see winning this award as a vote of confidence in our product”

StartLife accelerator program to further develop its biostimulant while maintaining ties to Wageningen. Štyriaková: “We have switched our perspective from predominantly bioleaching to producing our biostimulant. The results are so amazing that people often think we’re photoshopping our images.” The fertiliser greatly increases plant growth and yield, while ekolive’s newest product, a micro-fertiliser, is having considerable success in giving plants anti-freeze properties. The biostimulant market is not an easy one to gain access to, however. “There are so many bad products on the market that farmers have lost all confidence,” Štyriaková explains. “Without us winning the Feike Sijbesma Sustainable Innovation Award farmers might not even have tried our solutions but they see this prize as a vote of confidence. Even so, everyone still wants to test our product first before buying.”

A television feature in their country-of-origin Slovakia has really helped *ekolive* reach its domestic market. “We receive new orders every day!” But catching bigger fish — i.e., major corporations — has proven more elusive. “They want to see independent testing, so we hope to work together with researchers at Wageningen to make this happen.” ●



**More information**

[universityfundwageningen.eu/feikesijbesma](https://universityfundwageningen.eu/feikesijbesma)

Excellence and extraordinary performances deserve to be awarded with extra attention and social recognition. This is why University Fund Wageningen and various funds in name, hand out various annual prizes and stipends.

## Awards in 2022

### AtlasInvest Entrepreneurship Grant

LumiNose (Start-Up Award) & Urban Funghi (Impact Award)

### Aalt Dijkhuizen Fund:

Raghavendra Reddy Manda.

### Feike Sijbesma Sustainable Innovation Award

Ekolive, led by Darina Štyriaková.

### Fonds Niels Smith

Esmā Staal (handball) & Sofie Dokter (heptathlon).

### HJS Fonds

Luuk Croijmans, Thibault Costaz, Wietse Wiersma & Xu Han.

### Marina van Damme Grant

Martyna Hogendorf & Adita de Haan-Fuentes Usquiano.

### Research Award

Ernst-Jan Eggers.

### Storm-van der Chijs Fund

Katherine Barragán-Fonseca & Barbara Terlouw.

### Thesis Award

Corentin Bisot (overall winner), Selena Koene, Carolina Sarzana & Sanne Put.

[universityfundwageningen.eu/awards](https://universityfundwageningen.eu/awards)



# UFW Friends helping students

The Friends of University Fund Wageningen support talented people at Wageningen University & Research in performing to the best of their ability and taking the next step in their careers. Donations by Friends are spent in a range of ways, including allowing students to present their internship or thesis at an (international) conference, supporting refugee students looking to enhance their knowledge in Wageningen, and organising challenges where students learn to apply their knowledge to social issues.

Lotte Hulsbergen, MSc student Nutrition and Health, aims to have a career in research into global nutrition. Her master thesis on iron intake among Philippine youth generated international interest, and in December 2022, she had the chance to present her results at the IUCN-ICS international nutrition conference in Tokyo

The Student Conference Grant enabled Lotte to attend the conference, covering her attendance and 50% of her travel and accommodation costs.

According to Lotte, attending the conference was instrumental in her taking the next step in her academic career. "I was able to learn

more about possible topics for my doctoral research by attending various symposiums, seminars and presentations. This included subjects such as food shortage, malnutrition, nutrition throughout the human lifespan, and threats to food security. Being physically present meant I could also take part in valuable discussions and meet other dedicated colleagues."

During the various dinners and the gala, Lotte spoke to many people seeking inspiration for possible career paths and ways to expand her network. And with success: thanks to her connections, Lotte was offered a temporary position as a research assistant and has been in place since February. "I can confidently say that my participation in the conference laid the foundation for my future career in global nutrition."

## Become a Friend of University Fund Wageningen

You can become a Friend of UFW from just five euros a month. From 120 euros a year you are eligible for a fiscally attractive agreement for multi-year donations. Friends receive a newsletter six times a year and a welcome gift.

## Safely back in school

Our Friends also help refugees continue their personal development and play their part in society while waiting for asylum to be granted. The WURth-while programme of WUR and the Dutch Council for Refugees (East Netherlands) provides refugee students with three to four courses free of



Lotte Hulsman is delighted that she was able to give her presentation at the conference in Tokyo thanks to support from the Student Conference Grant. | Photo Lotte Hulsman

## *“The conference laid the foundation for my academic career”*



charge. WURth-while actively involves refugees in the WUR's fields of expertise and connects them to the students and professors in Wageningen. The programme helps newcomers use their time constructively while they wait. One of the refugees we have supported is Hadi Estanboli, who fled from Syria and had to leave his career in food security behind too. Upon arrival in the Netherlands, Hadi started taking classes via the WURth-while programme so he could later follow a Master's in Food Technology at WUR. "The WURth-while programme was a magical tool for me," he says. "Without its help, it would have been really complicated for an outsider like me to take classes. And I wouldn't have been able to afford it anyway."

The programme served as Hadi's introduction to the educational system in

the Netherlands, helped him get reacquainted with studying after five years of working and fleeing, and enabled him to get to know fellow students. The WURth-while programme laid the foundation for his master's degree which he proudly obtained in 2022. "I hope that WURth-while will continue to support other students and change their lives in a positive way like it has mine." ●



### **More information**

[universityfundwageningen.eu/friendsofufw](https://universityfundwageningen.eu/friendsofufw)

# Almost € 200,000 for clean drinking water in Ukraine

In Ukraine, hospitals, drinking water facilities, schools and nurseries have been destroyed and part of the population has been displaced. As a result, an estimated 13.6 million people lack clean drinking water. Four WUR alumni joined forces to provide affected people in Ukraine with clean drinking water using simple water filters they designed themselves. The University Fund Wageningen set up a large-scale crowdfunding campaign to raise money for making and distributing the water filters. The result: 1100 donors raised about 196,000 euros, helping some 38,000 Ukrainians gain access to clean drinking water!

In October, we started the crowdfunding campaign for Ukraine, where water supply systems have been destroyed by the war and surface water is polluted. With no access to adequate water filtering systems, there is a high risk of cholera outbreaks and diarrhoea. NGOs are often unable to reach the affected areas due to violence in the region or they are focused on longer term reparation of infrastructure. Households in these war zones do not therefore, have access to clean drinking water, which is why the four alumni took action together.

## Mobile water filters

WUR alumni Lieselotte Heederik and Guido van Hofwegen developed the Nazava Water Filters. These filters are simple, durable, inexpensive and provide high quality water. They purify contaminated water in three steps; the ceramic membrane filters bacteria and coarse particles such as iron from the water, a silver coating kills

the bacteria, and the activated carbon core reduces taste, odours and chemicals such as chlorine. The purified water is collected and can be used. The whole system is no bigger than two buckets on top of each other. They are easily portable and can be used by anyone

## Network in Ukraine

Alumni Emmeke Vierhout and Kees Huizinga have built a network from their De Leeuw Kyiv Foundation to provide people in Ukraine with relief supplies. They have lived in Ukraine for 20 years, where they have built up a large farm. They speak the language, they know the right people and, through their connections, can also reach people in occupied regions where NGOs have no access. Contact between the four alumni had already been established during a campaign by UNICEF for water filters in Ukraine. When we at the University Fund Wageningen heard Emmeke's story during the Wageningen



SaveUA distributes water filters in the war-affected city of Novovorontsovo in the Kherson region | Photo SaveUA

Experience Day, we wanted to help them as quickly as possible. We therefore set up a crowdfunding campaign within two weeks and are pleased that we were able to be of

significance to this special collaboration. In 2022, about 7,000 water filters were distributed in Ukraine. An additional 8,000 filters will be distributed in 2023. ●

## Wageningen team Colourectal wins gold in iGEM competition

The University Fund Wageningen helped a Wageningen student team crowdfund the money needed to participate in the finals of iGEM, an international competition to improve the world with synthetic biology.

And with success: their new self-test for colorectal cancer has earned the team a gold medal. Additionally, they were nominated for best presentation. The student team developed a pill containing genetically modified, probiotic bacteria that produce a blue substance when encountering tumours in the intestine. Blue poop

means a chance of colorectal cancer.

The self-test, called Colourectal, is a living, diagnostic test that helps detect early-stage colorectal cancer in a user-friendly way. The test is a useful addition to the population screening programme, in which early stages of cancer are often overlooked. With the new self-test, the Wageningen students hope to help reduce the prevalence of a disease that effects a million people each year. ●

# Support a cause within University Fund Wageningen

In 2022, University Fund Wageningen managed 28 named funds, each of which contributes to the growth and flourishing of research and education of Wageningen University & Research. This year we received a total amount of €1,013,000 in new donations via named funds.

## STIMULATING RESEARCH

**Fund stichting ECAF**  
for classic grains

**De Vos-Thijssen Fund**  
for diseases transferred  
by vectors

**Plant Resources of the  
World (PROW) Fund**  
for useful plant varieties in  
developing countries

**L. Bos Fund**  
for ecological  
plant virology

**Rob Goldbach Fund**  
for virology

## SUPPORT DURING STUDIES

**Louise O. Fresco Fonds**  
for students in force  
majeure situations

## YOUNG SCIENTISTS

**Huub en Julienne Spiertz  
(HJS) Fund**  
for young agrobiologists  
and crop experts

**Lucie Timmermans Fund**  
for female animal scientists

**Neys - van Hoogstraten  
Fund**  
for research into food  
security in Asia

**Marina van Damme  
Fund**  
for talented female WUR  
alumni

**Storm - van der Chijs  
Fund**  
for female WUR scientists

**Wellensiek Fund**  
for PhD research in  
horticulture

These various funds give students, young scientists and employees of Wageningen University & Research the opportunity to gain experience (including internationally), students from other countries the chance to study in Wageningen via scholarships, and ensure that research receives the funding it needs. Each donor who establishes a named fund can choose a specific cause as long as it falls under the general ambition of University Fund Wageningen. Discover all the causes of the various funds below.

See a topic to which you might like to contribute or require more information?



Go to [universityfundwageningen.eu/namedfunds](https://universityfundwageningen.eu/namedfunds)



Interested in establishing your own named fund? Contact us at [ufw@wur.nl](mailto:ufw@wur.nl)

## SCHOLARSHIPS

**Anne van den Ban Fund**  
for students from low income countries

**Dairy Science & Technology Fellowship**  
for MSc specialisation Dairy Science & Technology

**Future Animal Nutrition Africa (FANA) Fund**  
for Animal Feed students from Africa

**Nico Buisman Fund**  
for Environmental Technology students

**Gijsbert Oomen Fund**  
for Indonesian students

**Pavlos Condellis Fund**  
for Greek students

**Leniger Bruin Kühn Fund**  
for food technology and food safety

**Paul Speijer Fund**  
for Plant Sciences students from Africa

**Van Rumpt Scholarship Fund**  
for MSc Biosystems Engineering students from developing countries

## TALENT DEVELOPMENT DURING STUDIES

**Aalt Dijkhuizen Fund**  
for visits to leading institutions abroad

**Fund Niels Smith**  
for top athletes

**Middelhoven Fund**  
for internships or study travel in microbiology

**Marcel van Poecke Fund**  
for entrepreneurship

## OTHER

**Fund Belmonte Arboretum**  
for the Belmonte Arboretum in Wageningen

**Fund Wageningen Ambassadors**  
for a bridge between WUR and society

**KLV Fund**  
for alumni initiatives

The abridged financial statement provides insights into the income and expenses of the fund in 2022.

### Principles for valuation for the balance sheet

The financial statement of UFW is drawn up in accordance with guideline RJ 650 for fundraising institutions from the Dutch Council for Annual Reporting. The assets and liabilities are valued at nominal value, unless otherwise specified. The financial fixed assets are valued at market price. Receivables 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 designated funds are an individual part of the determined capital, of which the limited spending options are determined in consultation with the donors.

### Principles for result determination

Taking into account the valuation principles, the result is determined as the difference between the income from own fundraising, from 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 composed by Verenigingen Beheer Nederland B.V. It was assessed and provided by an audit statement by Schuurman & de Leeuw Accountants in Wageningen. The purpose 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 per 31 December 2022 and the result over 2022 in accordance with the guidelines for financial reporting, and Guideline 650 for fund raising institutions in particular." ●



Donors meet supported students at the donor day of Anne van den Ban Fonds | Photo Guy Ackermans

## Balance on 31 December 2022

### Assets

Financial fixed assets	986,881
Receivables	132,034
Liquidities	5,278,468
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,397,384</b>

### Liabilities

<b>Reserves &amp; funds</b>	
Foundation capital	552,731
Continuity reserve	416,318
<b>Total</b>	<b>969,049</b>
Funds	5,301,421
Short-term debts	126,915
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,397,384</b>

## Fund progress

### Named funds

Balance on 1 January	2,463,003
On: Received donations	1,012,648
Off: Gift fee	-471,180
Off: Contribution Stichting Anne van den Ban and Stichting Belmonte	-444,040
<b>Balance on 31 December</b>	<b>2,560,431</b>

### Fundamental Change and other WUR projects

Balance on 1 January	2,554,673
On: Received donations	5,085,822
Off: Expenses/advance	-4,945,971
<b>Balance on 31 December</b>	<b>2,694,523</b>

## State of income and expense in 2022

### Income

Income from private individuals	944,240
Income from companies	241,000
Income from other nonprofit organisations	5,074,466
Income from investments	-127,275
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,132,431</b>

Benefits in kind	783,412
<b>Total income</b>	<b>6,915,843</b>

### Expenses

Spent on causes	
Named funds	915,220
Food for Thought	0
Fundamental Change and other WUR projects	4,945,971
UFW projects	3,261
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,864,452</b>

Recruitment costs from benefits in kind	763,549
Management and administration costs for account UFW	108,229
Management and administration costs from benefits in kind	19,863
<b>Mutation continuity reserve</b>	<b>6,756,094</b>

<b>Balance of income and expenses</b>	<b>159,751</b>
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### Addition/reduction

Designation fund Named Funds	97,428
Designation fund Food For Thought (FFT)	0
Designation fund Fundamental Change and other WUR projects	139,850
<b>Mutation continuity reserve</b>	<b>-77,528</b>



#### Full financial statement

The full financial statement is available in Dutch via [universiteitsfondswageningen.nl/jaarrekening](https://universiteitsfondswageningen.nl/jaarrekening)

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Writewell

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The Reefolution project can be realised thanks to two of our philanthropic donors. With their support, WUR scientists are working on an ecological, economic and social solution for protecting coral reefs in Kenya, and in the village of Mkwiro in particular.

Reefolution involves:

- training local Reef Rangers to rebuild coral reefs with artificial blocks and managing the reefs
- stimulating sustainable diving and snorkelling tourism
- adding value for local seaweed cultivation by realising a production facility to make high quality seaweed-based end products.
- building a visitor centre to inform the local population and tourists of sustainable coral reef management.

# University Fund Wageningen

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

**Jacqueline Pieters-Zetsma**  
Chair of University Fund  
Wageningen

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**Wouter Hendriks**  
Member

**Harry Paul**  
Member

**Sebastiaan Berendse**  
Member



## EMPLOYEES



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fundraiser medium  
donations and legacies

**Fanny Castel**  
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international  
foundations

**Maruscha Clarke**  
grant manager

**Marijne Dankaart**  
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**Daniëlle Grashuis**  
stewardship officer

**Angelique Groeneweg**  
fundraiser regular and  
one-off donations  
(from May 2022)

**Esther Kloppenberg-  
Fakkert**  
finance officer (from  
October 2022)

**Tjerk Leij**  
student assistant

**Joyce Smeltink**  
fundraiser regular and  
one-off donations a.i.  
(until April 2022)

**Gerard Straver**  
executive secretary

**Sacha Tijmstra**  
communications  
advisor

**Jelte Zeilstra**  
business controller

Algemeen Nut  
Beogende Instelling  
**ANBI**

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