

Year Report 2015

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Summary Green Office performance in 2015

The aim of year 2015 was to increase Green Office Wageningen impact and visibility. We have implemented several projects that were widely discussed by Wageningen community: Warm Sweater Week, Meatless Monday and Seriously Sustainable week therefore we can conclude that Green Office Wageningen has been successful in raising its visibility. Concerning impact, the results are mixed. We have made first steps to influence WUR's IT policy and to put Education for Sustainability more in spotlight (projects Smart IT Use and Green Teacher's Award). The change however is yet to come. Project Meatless Monday had direct impact on offer in WUR canteens, since warm meals served on Mondays are exclusively vegetarians and vegan dishes. In 2015 Green Office has undergone changes on the strategic and organizational levels that hopefully will further strengthen our position and impact on sustainability of Wageningen UR. Firstly, we have started discussion that resulted in new positioning of Green Office as a part of Facility Services Department (under Veiligheid en Milieu section). Furthermore, advisory body that supports Green Office work (former Reflexion Board, now Support Board) has been joined by new members representing important WUR units: OWI and PhD board. On the organizational level, Green Office has transitioned from 'project' to 'portfolio' structure. At this moment, projects of Green Office are divided into three portfolios managed by four coordinators: operations (two coordinators), education (one coordinator), outreach (one coordinator).

Results of the individual projects

Theme IT and ENERGY

Use IT Smartly

Goal: Educate students on sustainable and energy efficient use of IT device

Result: An information evening was organised in collaboration with Timmy de Vos (Use IT Smartly) in which he gave a crash course about sustainable IT and a tear-down workshop, in which several laptops were dismantled. There were about 10 participants. Unfortunately there was no follow-up due to the lack of interest from the participants.

During the AID2015 Green Office also gave a 'tear-down' workshop in which in total 5 people participated. In an intimate setting the principals of Smart IT Use were explained again based on the previous mentioned activity and two laptops were teared down.

Further the preparations started of a campaign on smart IT use in the library, the information was collected for different tips & tricks which are ready to spread among staff and students. However, due to the fact that the library did not wanted to be the leading party in this project in September 2015, this campaign is postponed to 2016 in which it will be held WUR-wide.

Contact persons/ partners: Rick de Haan (IT department); Sylvia Breukers (Use IT Smartly).

Theme ENERGY

Warm Sweater Week

3rd edition of Warm Sweater Week (WSW) took place from 19 until 23 January. The average temperature was decreased by 2 degrees in Forum, Actio, Zodiac and the Leeuwenborch.² The energy consumption was lower in all participating buildings ([link to data](#)). During WSW Green Office organized several activities to raise awareness about WSW: campus games (few participants), knitting workshop (10 participants), clothes SWAP (30 participants), soup sale (40 portions sold in no time), Movie Night (40 participants). Green Office collected surveys during WSW at all participating buildings. Reactions were mixed, generally positive. In Zodiac the temperature at working places was comfortable but common hall was too cold. Similar pattern was observed in Forum. Survey answers from Leeuwenborch were comfortable but Green Office received an email complain from one of the employees. There was no feedback from Actio.

Theme CATERING

Student Cooking Corner

Goal: To promote sustainable food and increase the variety of the food supplied at the university.

Results: Student Cooking Corner (SCC) is a space where students can sell home-made vegetarian or vegan food to visitors of the canteen in Forum building. It is organized in cooperation with Cornet and takes place every Wednesday on the first floor of Forum. The project has been started in 2012. At this moment SCC is well accepted and appreciated by costumers. Visitors to the Forum canteen know about SCC and almost every week there is a person/ group of people who sells there their food.

Meatless Monday

Goals : (1) To raise awareness about major problems caused by meat production systems/livestock sector; (2) to encourage people to make more conscious food choices; (3) to increase the variety of food offered at WUR campus; (3) to reduce CO2 impact of Wageningen UR by reducing meat consumption on Wageningen campus.

Results: In June 2015 Meatless Monday was introduced as a pilot project in all four major canteens at Wageningen Campus (in buildings Forum, Orion, Leeuwenborch and Nexus). It was positively evaluated by consumers (survey showed more than 70% support for the project), caterers and contract managers from the Facility Services department. In September 2015 a decision has been made that Meatless Monday will become an integral part of catering operations at the campus. Meatless Monday has been widely discussed by Wageningen community, mainly on the website of Wageningen UR magazine, [Resource](#) (search term: Meatless Monday)

Theme WASTE and CATERING

Food Battle

Goal: Raising awareness about food waste and sharing knowledge about possibilities to reduce/prevent food waste.

Results: Food Battle was a competition that ran three weeks from March 16 – April 5. During that period participants were asked to log their food waste. They also received via tips, facts and news about food and food waste. Once an email has been sent providing evaluations of own achievements. 3

Green Office, WEP, RUW, Foodsharing Wageningen and Humble Harvest collaborated to promote Food Battle to WUR students. As a result 137 households participated in Food Battle, of which 30 were student households. The student fraction of the participants reduced its food waste by 61,56% in three weeks. Four of the student Participants were awarded on least overall food waste and most reduction of food waste. Their impressions are shared on [Green Office website](#).

Theme WASTE

Collect, Fix Share

Goal: to prevent wasting abandoned bikes at Wageningen campus by repairing and reselling them to new students.

Results: There were two editions of this project: Winter AID sale and Summer AID sale. In winter around 30 bikes were delivered by Restore. In summer 50 bikes were offered to new students. 90% of bikes were sold. Abandoned bikes were collected in June 2015; these were repaired or recycled at Restore's social workstation in Ede, to be sold to new students at the Summer AID sale. Both bike sales were positively evaluated by Green Office partners: AID board and Restore.

Theme EDUCATION

Green Teachers Award

Goal: to recognize teachers working at Wageningen University who inspire students to think and act in a sustainable manner.

Crosscutting projects

Green Match

Goal: to contribute to the integration of sustainability at Wageningen UR by linking education and research with sustainable operational management.

Entrepreneurship For Sustainability (E4S)

Goal: To inspire and support students to start their own sustainable initiative or enterprise that will have a direct positive impact on the WUR campus and beyond.

Result: In total 8 meetings were organized in the Starthub between March and June 2015. The series consisted of four workshops, three feedback sessions and one pitching event. The sessions were organized in cooperation with StartLife, Education and Competencies Study group, and LEI. The first discussion evening on social entrepreneurship, which was open to all students, attracted 40 persons. Also the maximum number of 25 participants had been reached very quickly. Twenty people participated until the end of the programme and developed their idea further.

At the end of the programme, 14 people filled in the evaluation survey. Thirteen out of the fourteen people who filled in the evaluation survey said the programme inspired them to set up their own sustainability initiative. In addition, the participants felt that the programme increased their entrepreneurial competence. For a majority of the participants the programme led to a change in the way they view entrepreneurship. The triple layered business model canvas helped the participants to see that entrepreneurship can also contribute to a sustainable future.

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On the 5th of October, on Economic Sustainability night during SeSu, a session was organized to provide students with more information on next year's E4S programme and to inspire them to join the programme. Three alumni of last year's acceleration programme were interviewed. Around 25 people were present and around 20 people wrote down their email to keep informed about new edition of Entrepreneurship for Sustainability.

Seriously Sustainable

Goals: (1) To put in spotlight sustainability related organizations and projects happening at WUR campus and beyond, (2) to promote Green Office Wageningen. Organized in collaboration with Facility Department of Wageningen University.

Results: Seriously Sustainable week (SeSu) was one week festival celebrating sustainability. First three days of SeSu were dedicated to three main aspects of sustainability (day 1: economic, day 2: social, day 3: environmental). Fourth day featured sustainability market where different initiatives and organizations from Wageningen were given space to present to broader public. During the market nominees of the Green Teacher Award were announced and interviewed at the stage. Last two days had mainly entertaining character, including movie screening and a clothing SWAP in the city centre (part of Eerlijk Winkelen Week). More than 25 organizations participated in SeSu week and more than 200 people attended different activities. Some events were more popular than other, including Economic Sustainability night (40 participants), Sustainability Market, and clothing SWAP (100 participants). Lara de Brito alderman of Wageningen Municipality delivered a speech closing sustainability marker.

Other activities

Outreach

Goal: to promote Green Office among (new) students and employees at Wageningen University

Results:

Winter AID: Green Office organized mini vegan cooking workshop (in collaboration with S&I and ISOW) and delivered a 2-minute pitch to new students. The audience consisted of 50 people and as many people joined the workshop.

One World Week: Green Office organized two activities during One World Week: a clothing SWAP and a vegan cooking workshop. Clothing SWAP was a collaboration with WEP, Duurzame lenteweekend and Natalia Westerman. It was very successful event with live music and more than hundred participants. Vegan cooking workshop was collaboration with Humble Harvest and it was delivered to 15 participants who have learnt to cook a vegan dish.

Buurten bij de Burenweek: Green Office gave two Sustainability Tours to two groups of 15 employees of Wageningen UR. Besides information about sustainability aspects of the campus, Green Office offered a lunch to all participants.

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Summer AID: Green Office organized following activities during Summer AID: (1) Tear-down workshop (see heading Use IT Smartly), (2) Crazy 88 assignment, (3) info-stand at Infomarket. Green Office activities

Pop-up Green Office: In November and December Green Office visited seven campus buildings (Zodiac, Radix, Gaia/Lumen, Atlas, Leeuwenborch, Actio and Forum) with a pop-up stand. It was an opportunity to meet students and employees of Wageningen UR at their workplace and tell them about Green Office and its projects. Pop-up Green Office was promoted on Intranet and narrowcasting system and it was well-visited during pop-up days.

GreenActive network*

Goal: to foster connections between different organizations related to sustainability operating in Wageningen.

Results: Green Office organized one Meet and Mingle event where GreenActive organizations had an opportunity to meet and exchange ideas. Two other Meet and Mingles were facilitated by other organizations: RUW and Vegeningen. At each event around 20 participants were present. Until June 2015 Green Office was in charge of GreenActive poster that in September has been abandoned based on decision of all member organizations. In October 2015 Green Office initiated a workshop on working with volunteers that was open to GreenActive members. Representatives of FossilFree, WEP, RUW, OtherWise, Boerengroep and Green Office joined this workshop.

*Informal network of sustainability-related organizations in Wageningen

Green Office Summit 2015

Goal: to connect and exchange ideas with other Green Offices in Europe.

Results: Green Office was present during all four days of Green Office Summit in Rotterdam. Each day another person represented Green Office to ensure participation of the entire team. On third day of the Summit Green Office organized a workshop on Education for Sustainability where we shared experiences of past Green Office projects related to this topic.

Additional activities

Economic Sustainability Night

Goal: To provide students with insights on economic sustainability

Result: The evening started with an information session on Entrepreneurship for Sustainability, which aimed to inspire students to join next year's acceleration programme. Around 25 people were present. Thereafter, a 'Microthinktank' workshop was organized by IBESS, during which participants had to find adequate sustainable solutions for challenging cases. Around 30 students were present. Lastly, a consultancy firm based in Amsterdam, Metabolic, screened the documentary 'Urban Tides', and facilitated a discussion on the circular economy. Around 40 people were present. During this last session, a representative of 'DeDeelKelder' was also given the opportunity to pitch his circular economic initiative. Vegan and vegetarian sandwiches were prepared by Jahbatta and served at a small fee. The

evening was considered to be a success by many of its participants.

[Urgenda Debate](#)

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Link to Facebook event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1648879362052620/>

Link to video of debate: <http://wurtv.wur.nl/p2gplayer/Player.aspx?id=eGvXq4>

Goal: To Inform students about the recent debate in the legal community on the potential of the law in protecting the climate.

Result: On the 26th of November Green Office Wageningen, RUW foundation and the Law and Governance Group organised a panel debate on the role of law and legal action in addressing climate change. The audience was enlightened by an international panel on the potential of the law in protecting the climate. The international panel consisted of prominent and engaged experts, such as Josephine van Zeben (Oxford University), Lucas Bergkamp, emeritus professor environmental law (Hunton LLP), Hanneke Palm (co-author of Challenging the Human Rights Responsibility of States and Private Corporations for Climate Change in Domestic Jurisdictions), Kai Purnhagen (Wageningen University), Edward Brans (Pels Rijken, the Dutch state advocate) and Koos van den Berg (Höcker Advocaten). Arthur Mol, Rector Magnificus of Wageningen University and Research Centre, opened the discussion at 17:00 and the event was moderated by Nature editor Quirin Schiermeier. About 70 people were present during the debate.

[Green Office Wageningen off to Paris](#)

Link to blogs and videos:

<https://www.oneworld.nl/toekomstdenkers/aarde/klimaatbesef-onder-constructie>

<https://www.oneworld.nl/toekomstdenkers/mens/parijs-klimaatboodschap-beeld>

<http://resource.wageningenur.nl/nl/student/show/Blog-Verantwoordelijk-voor-klimaat.htm>

<https://weblog.wageningenur.eu/climatechange/climate-summit-begun/>

Goal: To raise awareness about sustainability issues, within a context of the COP21 summit in Paris, by reporting on experiences and by facilitating discussion and debate.

Result: On the 27th of November two Green office project coordinators, Patricia and Kayin, hitchhiked to Paris and interviewed people along the way about their views on climate change and the COP21. On the 28th of November, Kayin and Patricia visited the Conference of Youth (COY11). They joined several workshops, talked to people and worked on a photo project. The photo project aimed to capture people and their climate message for COP21 politicians. During their stay in Paris, Kayin and Patricia wrote three blogs, two for OneWorld and one for Resource, and uploaded several videos on social media. In doing so, they informed students on what was happening around the UN climate conference in Paris.

On January 28th 2016, Patricia and Kayin, together with RUW, organized a session on the outcomes of COP21. During this session, Kayin and Patricia presented their photo project and facilitated a discussion on climate change, by means of several statements. In addition, a panel-discussion was organized to discuss more in depth the outcomes of the Paris agreement. Around 40 people were present during the evening.