



Annual Plan 2026

Wadden Region
ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

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Welcome and reading guide

In front of you is the seventh Annual Plan 2026 of the Omgevingsberaad voor het Waddengebied: the Wadden Region Environmental Council or Environmental Council or OBW. This annual plan was established in collaboration with the MT Wadden Rijk Regio, the participants of the Wadden Region Environmental Council and the Preparatory Consultation. On December 4, 2025, the members jointly determined the prioritization and commitment for 2026.

Reading guide

In Chapter 1 of this work plan, you will find a description of the mission and roles of the Wadden Region Environmental Council in the Wadden Governance. Chapter 2 describes the working method of the Environmental Council. Chapter 3 describes the composition and the Annual Agenda with the meetings of the Environmental Council or those in which the Environmental Council participates. Chapter 4 discusses our commitment and focus in 2026. The annual plan ends with Chapter 5 where we translate the deployment of people and resources into the 2026 budget.



Chapter 1.

Mission and role of the Wadden Region Environmental Council

1.1 Introduction

"We work together in the service of this area that is dear to us". The Wadden Region is an important part of the Netherlands. The UNESCO World Heritage Wadden Region covers approximately 10,000–12,000 km² along three countries and is the largest ecosystem of this type worldwide. We cherish the Dutch part of this area, with unique ecological, scenic and geological characteristics. The area is home to islands, cities and villages where it is good to live, work and recreate. More than 3.6 million people visit the Wadden Islands every year and make the crossing.

The Wadden Region has many different challenges, interests and stakeholders. To safeguard and strengthen the qualities of the Wadden Sea and the Wadden Region within all these (inter)national and regional tasks, the central government and the region felt it in 2019 necessary to join forces: a joint effort to create a vital, liveable, resilient and safe Wadden Region together. The government, the three Wadden provinces, the four Water Boards and all the island and coastal municipalities involved, have agreed on a new government structure. In 2020, the 'renewed' Wadden Governance was formally established.

Together with stakeholders, the governments have drawn up the Agenda for the Wadden Region 2050 (hereinafter: the Agenda). The Agenda offers vision and direction: how do we deal with the various challenges at stake? The main goal is the sustainable protection and development of the Wadden Sea as a nature reserve and the preservation of the unique open landscape. And in addition, a Wadden Region that will remain safe, vital, liveable and resilient in the future.

1.2 Mission of the Wadden Region Environmental Council

Since its start in early 2020, the Environmental Council has continued to develop. As a result of a joint process (under the guidance of Consulting Firm Blue Zone), the Environmental Council adopted the following tightened mission and vision for the coming years on February 28, 2025:

(Who) We are the Wadden Region Environmental Council. The Environmental Council was established by the government as a formal advisory body within the Wadden Governance. (What) We contribute to joint and early participation of governments, science and sectors that

have an interest in the Wadden Region and influence the way in which we deal with that unique and vulnerable UNESCO World Heritage Site, in which people live, work and recreate. (Why, our philosophy) We do this because we believe that joint and early participation leads to successful policy aimed at sustainable protection and development of the nature of the Wadden Sea and a safe, vital and resilient Wadden Region for residents, visitors and entrepreneurs. (Brand essence) That is why we stand for 'Wadden goods'. (Promise) In doing so, we promise well-thought-out and supported solutions at the service of the Wadden Region, such as for the Wadden Sea Nature Policy Framework, issues relating to Climate and Energy, Defence, Gas Extraction, Energy Transition, Fisheries. We are committed to a strong cooperation of all parties in the (trilateral) Wadden Region. (Evidence) We achieve this by bringing the key figures together, and making information accessible and transparent, facilitating open dialogues and stimulating coherent decision-making. We monitor the progress of the Agenda for the Wadden Region 2050 and the 2021-2026 Implementation Program. The sectors advise, solicited and unsolicited, the authorities (the central government and the region).

The philosophy behind the design of the Environmental Council is that successful policy can only be established in the joint and early participation of the three sections: government, knowledge and civil society organizations. The seven members come from the civil society organizations with diverse interests and users, namely Nature and environmental organizations, the Wadden Sea ports, the Agriculture and Fisheries sector, the Recreation and Tourism sector. The seventh member is the director of the Wadden Academy on behalf of science.

In 2026, the Environment Council will create a platform for the seventh year where these parties with different backgrounds, interests and perspectives initiate and conduct structured dialogues and discussions about the Wadden Region, as well as exchange information. This creates proximity, a network with short lines of communication between 'The Hague and the region' and 'the system world and the living world'. With the Wadden Academy as knowledge director, evidence-based policy and decision-making are prepared based on facts.

1.3 The Agenda for the Wadden Region 2050 as a compass

In fulfilling the various tasks and roles, the Environmental Council always chooses the main objectives for the Wadden Sea and the Wadden Region as laid down in the Agenda as a starting point. With its advice, the Environmental Council contributes to the main objective for the Wadden Sea. This concerns the sustainable protection and development of the Wadden Sea as a nature reserve and the preservation of the open landscape. This main objective was also included in the Wadden Sea structural vision and remains in full force:

"The guiding principle for achieving this is that interventions or actions in the Wadden Sea are based on sustainable protection and/or development that is as natural as possible and the preservation of the dynamics and geomorphology of the area, quality of soil, air and water associated flora and fauna, as well as the landscape qualities, in particular tranquillity, vastness, open horizon and naturalness including darkness. The archaeological values present in the soil and cultural-historical values present in the area are protected also.

Achieving the main objective for the Wadden Sea has effects on the surrounding Wadden Region, and vice versa, there may also be effects of developments in the Wadden Region that affect the achievement of the objective for the Wadden Sea. This means that the goals for the surrounding Wadden Region are also relevant, insofar as they are related to achieving the main objective of the Wadden Sea."

That is why the Environmental Council also monitors the goals for the surrounding Wadden Region, from the point of view of the people who live and work there, for now and future generations.

"The main goal for the Wadden Region is for it to be safe, vital and resilient by 2050. Safe because we anticipate the consequences of climate change and sea level rise in a timely manner. Vital because living, working, education and care remain possible, on the islands and along the coast, and because economic sectors excel in the context of the Wadden Sea World Heritage. Resilient because robust nature and the world-class landscape can absorb the effects of climate change, sustainable use and new developments.

The objectives for the Wadden Region are:

- Nature is and remains world-class and continues to develop, in conjunction with nature across the border.
- The unique values of the landscape and cultural heritage are preserved and further developed.
- The Wadden Region is a good, safe and climate-proof place to live, work and recreate.
- The economic sectors excel, in the context of the Wadden Sea World Heritage."

The planned Evaluation started in 2025 – one year before the end of the term of this 2021-2026 Implementation Program – which will be the basis for a first comprehensive evaluation of the target achievement of the Agenda and the 2021-2026 Implementation Program based on the annual diagnoses, progress reports and monitoring of the goals. This evaluation provides input for the preparation of a new Implementation Program for the period after 2026. The De Graeff Advice also provides advice on substantive focus, executive power and financing. Both reports use the analysis and recommendations of the ABDTOP Consult report (published April 2024).

1.4 Roles

The Environmental Council has four roles in the founding document:

1. **Advisory body** on behalf of civil society organizations and users: The aim is to provide solicited and unsolicited advice on policy, its progress and implementation to the national government and other governments.
2. **Meeting place:** Representatives of governments with a mandate, such as directors and chairmen/directors of civil society organizations and science. The aim is to keep each other informed and to involve each other in what was, is or will be discussed.
3. **Platform** for structured discussions: The aim is to be well prepared to raise policy issues and/or current developments. Solutions can also be sought together.
4. **Antechamber** of het Bestuurlijk Overleg Waddengebied (called in English: the Wadden Region Administrative Board, hereinafter: BOW). The central government and regional governments use the Environmental Council to discuss and test policy proposals. The council is therefore part of the policy environment and can, in that capacity, also put themes on the agenda in the BOW. Policy proposals to be discussed have been discussed in the Environmental Council and provided with advice.

1.5 Functions

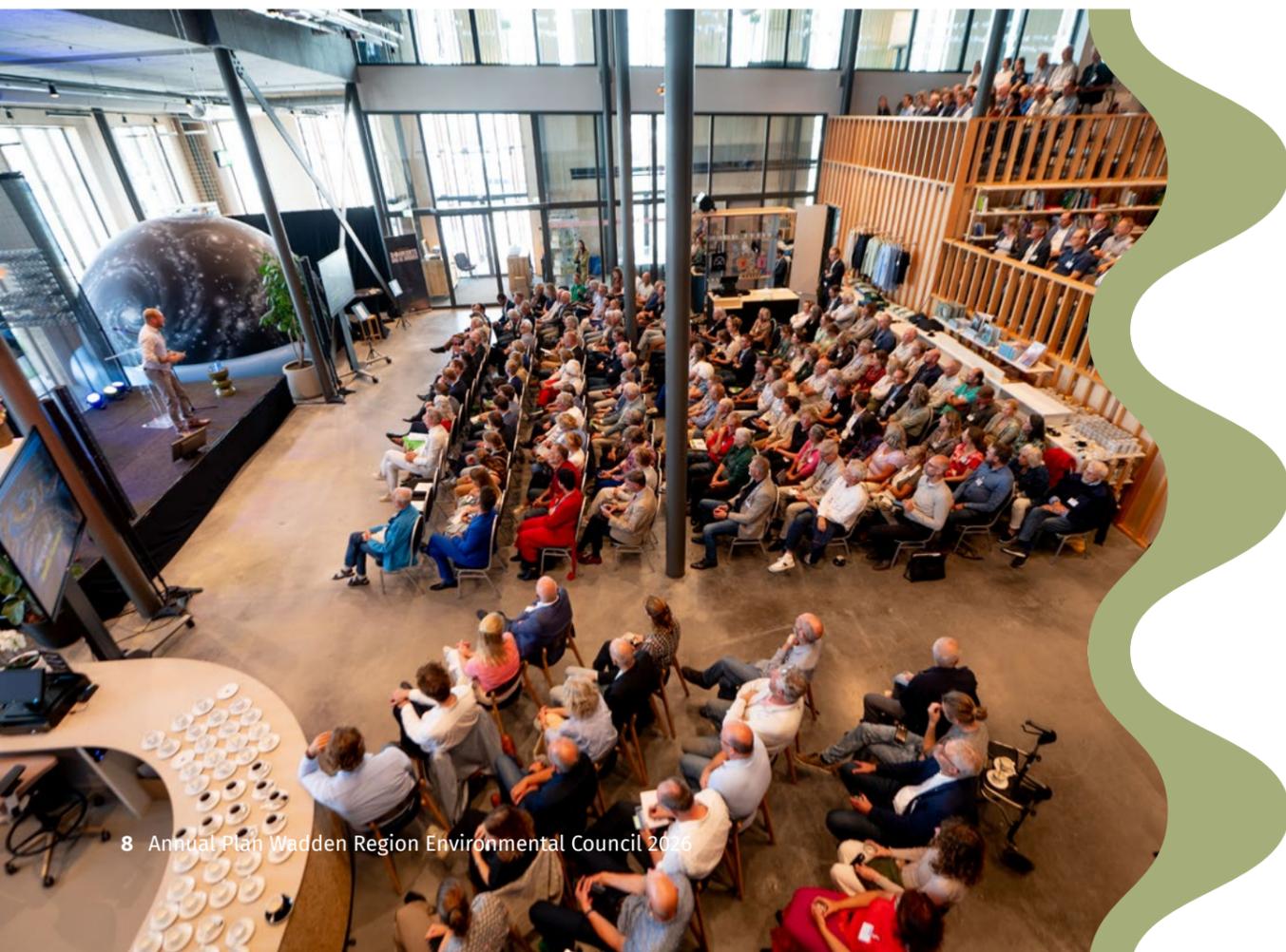
With these roles, we fulfil various functions, which combined ensure joint and early interaction and participation that promotes successful policy and decision-making:

1. Advising on Wadden policy, both at the service of every consultation of the Wadden Region Administrative Board and the individual regional authorities involved and the central government (and its individual ministries).
2. Putting (current) themes in the Wadden Region on the agenda.
3. Bringing together and involving all parties involved in the Wadden Region.
4. Monitoring and discussing developments and current situations in the Wadden Region.
5. Providing solutions for Wadden issues.
6. Influencing policymaking and policymakers.

The main function of the Environmental Council is to advise on policy issues that are important for the Wadden Region. The other functions that are mentioned must be seen in conjunction with this. The whole is necessary to come to a good and mature advice.

The recommendations are issued twice a year for the meetings of the BOW. In between, advice is also issued on individual trajectories, at important moments in these processes, addressed to the department or government concerned.

The advice of the Environmental Council was considered to be weighty when the Wadden Governance was established, which means that advice is essential in determining policy by the authorities involved. Much of this influence is already taken up at an early stage and interactively in shaping the policy processes and decision-making.



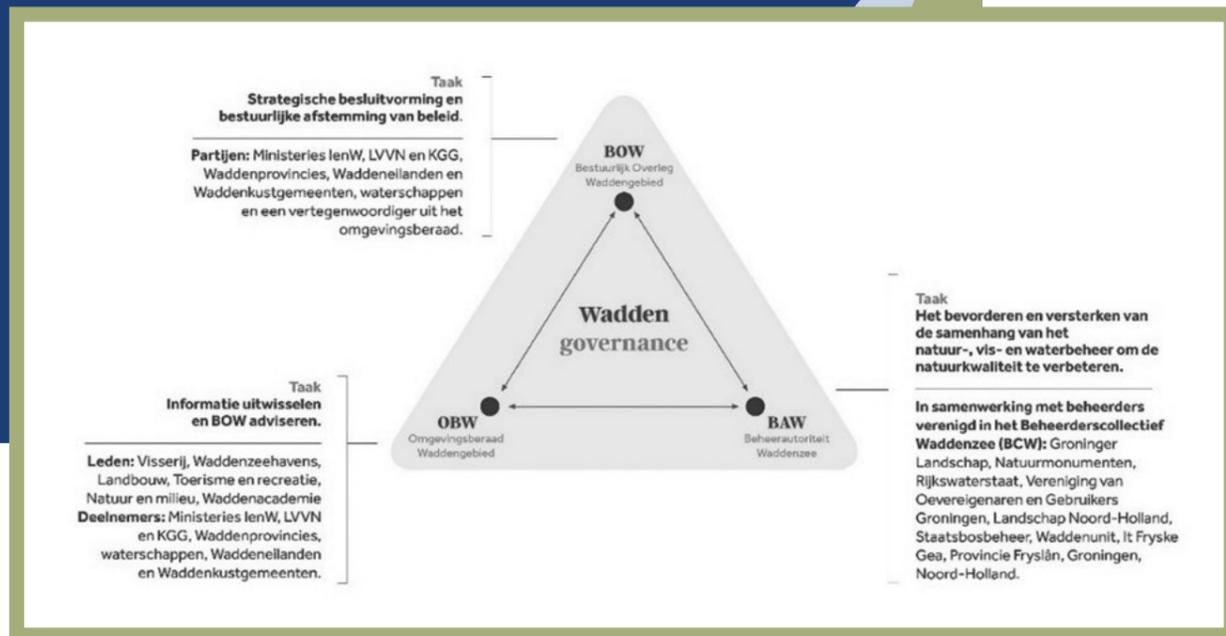


Figure 1. Wadden governance: three pillars

1.6 Wadden Governance further explained

Like the rest of the Netherlands, the Wadden Region is governed by various governments: municipalities, provinces, water boards and the national government. The Wadden Sea is also divided into provinces and municipalities. Four water boards are responsible for safety on the islands and on the mainland of the Wadden Region.

At the beginning of 2020, a new Wadden Governance was launched with three pillars. The aim was to shape a clear and structured decision-making process. This introduced two new consultations: the Wadden Region Administrative Board and the Environmental Council. In addition, the Wadden Sea Management Authority has been set up.

The first pillar is the Wadden Region Administrative Board in which the central government, the three Wadden provinces, all coastal and island municipalities and the four water boards that manage the Wadden Region are administratively represented. The consultation is aimed at joint, strategic decision-making about the policy for the Wadden Region. This is done under the chairmanship of outgoing Minister of Infrastructure and Water Management, Mr. Tieman, as coordinating minister for the Wadden Sea within the government.

These meetings take place twice a year. The chairman of the Environmental Council participates as an advisor and puts forward the recommendations of the Environmental Council. He also fulfills the role of vice-chairman of the BOW.

The Environmental Council is the second pillar of this Wadden Governance.

The third pillar is the Wadden Sea Management Authority. The 2017 Cabinet Agreement stated, "that there will be a single management authority for the Wadden Sea that implements an integrated management plan, so that better protection of nature reserves is combined with better fish management". This has led to the establishment of the Wadden Sea Management Authority. With the establishment of the Wadden Sea Management Authority, a clear separation has been made between commissioning and contracting management status. The contractors are the site management organizations, including RWS and nature organizations.

Chapter 2.

Working method of the Wadden Region Environmental Council



2.1 Institution and appointment

At the start, at the end of 2019, at the request of Ms. C. van Nieuwenhuizen-Wijbenga, the Minister of Infrastructure and Water Management and Ms. C. Schouten, the Minister of Agriculture, Nature and Food Safety, the Wadden Region Environmental Council was set up by drs. A.A.M. Brok. He is the independent chairman of the Environmental Council. The chair of the Environment Council is appointed by the Minister of Infrastructure and Water Management. The Environmental Council consists of members of civil society organizations in the Wadden Region, the Wadden Academy as knowledge director and a representation of all governments.

This has been laid down at the institution: *"The members are appointed by the chairman for four years on the recommendation of their organizations. Reappointments are possible. Representatives of the authorities are delegated by their organizations in consultation with the chairman, based on administrative representation or delegation at management level. The members and representatives may be replaced by permanent substitutes."*

In addition to the expiry of the term of office, the membership or representation of members and participants of the Environmental Council may also be terminated by the loss of the capacity on the basis of which one was appointed and/or at one's own request. No meeting costs or other allowances are paid.

The staffing of the Environmental Council from January 1, 2026, can be found in **Appendix 1**.

2.2 The chairman

The chairman stands for the jointly drawn up advice and common views and stands up for the importance of the Environmental Council. He fulfils the 'linking pin' function to the BOW and, as far as appropriate, to other consultations where he represents the Environmental Council.

The chairman inspires, stimulates and activates discussions about policy developments. He is the figurehead of the Environmental Council and has the position to convene an internal consultation of members and representatives of the Environmental Council at his own discretion. In his role, he can address members/representatives about agreements made and their responsibilities regarding the Wadden region.

2.3 Members and representation

As described in section 2.1, the Environmental Council consists of members of civil society organizations in the Wadden Region and a representation of governments. Representatives on behalf of fisheries, agriculture, nature, Wadden Sea ports, science and recreation and tourism participate in the Environmental Council. For the benefit of drawing up advice and/or broadening support for interests that, in the opinion of the members of the Environmental Council, are insufficiently represented, the

members of the Environmental Council may decide to temporarily add third parties as members. This option has not been used in recent years.

The representatives of the authorities use the Environmental Council to submit, discuss and/or test policy proposals. In drawing up the advice, they mainly have a role in the correct and up-to-date provision of information and in thinking along about possible solutions. They provide background information on policy and developments in it. They actively contribute to the platform and network function, either in person or through employees.

The members determine the content of the advice. In the preparation of advice, members and governments make use of the platform and network function at an early stage and interactively to put themes on the agenda, to propose solutions and to exchange and share (scientific) knowledge, interests and perspectives. The Environmental Council and the chairman are supported by the bureau of the Environmental Council. See section 2.8 for a composition and further tasks of the bureau.

2.4 Meetings and gatherings

The Environmental Council shall meet as often as deemed necessary by the chairman or if at least three members/representatives of the Environmental Council request it. The starting point is that the Environmental Council meets five times a year: twice prior to the BOW and at least twice strategically. In 2026, this will be three times, as an additional BOW is scheduled for March 26. Every year there is alternately a moment for evaluation and reflection or a multi-day working visit.

The bureau prepares the meetings in consultation with the chairman. In preparation for each meeting, the bureau has a preparatory meeting with the members of the Preparatory Consultation (VOO) at least three weeks before the meeting with (substantive/official) representatives of all members and authorities of the Environmental Council. The bureau makes every effort to ensure that the agenda and documents (except for urgent cases) are sent to the participants at least two weekends prior to the meeting. In practice, this is often shorter given the dependence on the delivery of documents by third parties. The meetings are closed. However, the chairman can invite people to attend the meeting.

Three thematic meetings provide a substantive deepening for the participants of the Environmental Council and the VOO. The topics are put forward by all members and governments. Occasionally, online knowledge sessions of approximately 1.5 hours are also scheduled. Every year, a Knowledge Agenda is drawn up for this purpose by means of the annual plan based on the priority topics. Since 2025, the members (only) have also met several times for mutual coordination on a specific topic, for deepening and joint prioritization.

2.5 Decision-making within the Wadden Region Environmental Council

The advisory role is reserved for the members of the Environmental Council. The views of the authorities are considered when formulating the advice in the Environmental Council. The members determine the advice or the choices to be made by consensus. If this is not possible because the positions are too far apart, all elements and considerations will be discussed in the advice. Where necessary and possible, sufficient time is taken to draw up the advice, so that scientific insights can be used, and the members of the Environmental Council can consult their constituencies. The members of the Environmental Council make an effort to include their supporters in the advice and proposals for possible solutions.

2.6 Communication, visibility and publicity

The chairman is the first point of contact in external communication and represents the Environmental Council in consultations, during meetings and on other occasions. If desired, he will be accompanied by a few members. The chairman only brings matters to the public, for example through press contacts, press releases and twitter messages, when this has been coordinated within the Environmental Council. The following applies to mutual communication: All members and representatives proactively ensure good information provision to the others: *"We act without surprising each other"*.

At the beginning of 2026, we will start with an improved, own website: omgevingsberaadwaddengebied.nl. This improves the visibility and findability of the Environmental Council and thus increases its legitimacy. The website is transparent, the information can be read logically, is attractive, up-to-date and can be found by the interested public. For relations and supporters, the website offers a good picture of the Environmental Council and the Wadden Governance.

On the website, the visitor is redirected via links to other organizations and platforms that offer relevant information about the Wadden Region. For meetings with third parties (Wadden dinner, Wadden debate, Bar Day, reception of MPs), the website can be actively used by the bureau and its members to provide information about and by the Environmental Council. The website is combined with a LinkedIn account. No other social media are used. Since the beginning of 2025, there has been a refreshed corporate identity that we apply to our communications such as the annual plan, letters, overlay notes and presentations.

The bureau places the Environmental Council recommendations (and the responses to these) on the website of the Environmental Council. Furthermore, the site communicates about annual plans, working visits, the annual Bar Day, Environmental Council (theme) meetings and activities that the Environmental Council undertakes.

2.7 Development and evaluation

The Environmental Council will start its seventh year in 2026 and has evolved in its roles and tasks, mutual trust and (knowledge) network function. Every year, small updates are made in the annual plan in the composition, working method and prioritization of the topics. In 2021 - shortly after the start - an external evaluation took place. The recommendations have been implemented since the 2022 annual plan. Every year, the Environmental Council has a self-evaluating meeting: the participants discuss how things are going, what the (intended) impact is of the Environmental Council and how the collaboration takes shape 'across their own borders'. In November 2024, this led to a number of changes to the working method: more substantive prioritization, more room for coordination between only the members themselves and a request to the authorities to organize the mutual coordination more clearly.

In April 2024, the ABDTOP Consult advice was published: "Decide, Bind and Bundle". The De Graeff Advice and the report in response to the Evaluation will be published in January 2026. The chairman and the bureau contributed to the preparation of both reports. The reports advise (in conjunction with each other) on achieving the goals of the Agenda and the executive power of the Wadden Governance. This will also concern the organization, role and significance of the Environmental Council. In 2025 the members spoke with De Graeff three times about the role and significance of the Environmental Council. The Environmental Council meetings in the first half of 2026 will partly focus on these reports and the elaboration for the future.

2.8 The bureau

The bureau supports the Environmental Council participants and the chairman in the work, which is involved in all roles and functions. The bureau consists of four employees (2.39 FTE): a director-secretary (Tamara Bok, 32 hours), a strategic advisor (Hannelore Strik, 24 hours), a deputy secretary (Hugo Eekhof, 16 hours) and a secretariat (vacancy 16 hours).

The activities of the bureau include:

- Preparing VOO and Environmental Council meetings, including timely agenda setting, document preparation, and drafting briefing and annotation notes for the chair.
- Preparation of the advice by the Environmental Council.
- Support for the chairman in his participation in the BOW.
- Organizing the (multi-day) meetings, theme meetings and symposia.
- Communication and strengthening of the relationship with the members and supporters (including website and messages on our LinkedIn account) about working visits and attendance at symposia of the participants, among other things.
- Contributing to and redeveloping trilateral cooperation and international or European agenda.
- Organizing the annual network meetings, including The Bar Day for the Wadden Region (together with the Wadden Fund).
- Working visits (approximately 5 per year) by the bureau to members and representatives for knowledge building and relationship maintenance.
- Supporting the Youth Council Wadden Region in programming and advice.

In accordance with the 2021-2026 Implementation Program, the director-secretary is an advisory member of the MT Wadden National and Region (hereinafter referred to as MT Wadden), consisting of managers and directors from the various participating governments. This is the official preliminary consultation for the BOW. The MT Wadden determines the documents for putting on the agenda for the BOW. In addition, the MT Wadden identifies and puts on the agenda for bottlenecks related to the execution of the 2021-2026 Implementation Program, for example around content, capacity or resources.

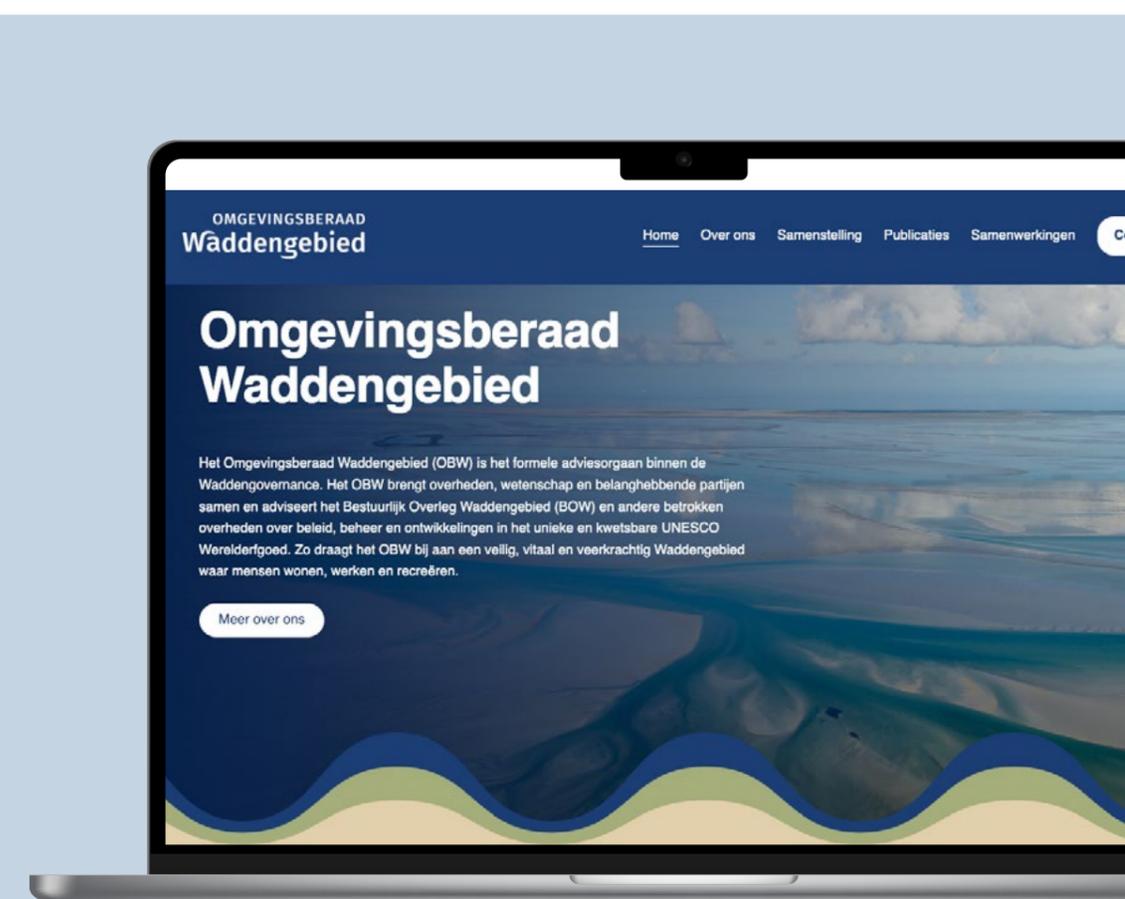
The coordination of the 2021-2026 Implementation Program is carried out by the Program Office, a small bureau. In accordance with the 2021-2026 Implementation

Program, the Director-Secretary is part of the Program Office. Together with the national Program Office coordinator, the strategic advisor maintains contact with the various leaders of the UPs and transitions. She is also a member of various working groups of the various UPs and transitions.

The deputy secretary takes care of the reports of the meetings of the Environmental Council. In addition, he is responsible for the organization of the Bar Day and the (multi-day) working visits. The financial planning and accountability as well as the handling of the contributions from the government is in his hands also. The secretariat takes care of the appointments, invoicing and facility matters surrounding all meetings in the House for the Wadden. From 2026, taking care of communication will also be part of these tasks.

2026 will be another very busy year with a multi-day visit to the Trilateral Governmental Conference in Esbjerg. This requires extra effort from an organizational and substantive point of view. A breakfast meeting with members of the House of Representatives is also planned for January, in the run-up to the Wadden debate. 2026 has not two but three BOW meetings that need to be prepared. Formulating advice on the results of the De Graeff Advice, the Evaluation and the drafting of the new Implementation will require a lot of time from the bureau, the members and the chairman.

Given the compact composition and available capacity of the bureau, the sum of meetings and activities requires flexibility from the employees. The director-secretary monitors the boundaries of activities for the bureau and the participants with the chairman.



Chapter 3.

Composition of the Environmental Council and meeting dates 2026

3.1 Composition of the Wadden Region Environmental Council

The Environmental Council has a permanent composition, consisting of the chairman, a director-secretary, seven members and eight representatives of governments.

1. an independent chairman;
2. two members on behalf of the nature and environmental organizations;
3. one member on behalf of the seaports;
4. one member on behalf of the fisheries;
5. one member on behalf of agriculture;
6. one member on behalf of recreation and tourism;
7. one member on behalf of science;
8. one representative on behalf of the Ministry of I&W;
9. one representative on behalf of the Ministry of LVVN;
10. one representative on behalf of the Ministry of KGG;
11. one representative on behalf of the Wadden Provinces Steering Group;
12. one representative on behalf of the Common Regulation Wadden Islands;
13. one representative on behalf of the Association of Wadden Sea Municipalities;
14. one representative on behalf of the water boards concerned;
15. one representative on behalf of the Wadden Sea Management Authority;
16. a director-secretary with support (strategic advisor, deputy secretary and secretarial support).

Due to the impact of the National Space for Defence Program on the Wadden Region (NPRD), a representative on behalf of the Ministry of Defence has been a member of the Environmental Council since 2024. In view of the continuation of this NPRD Program and the Defence

Readiness Act, we expect the Ministry of Defence to remain a member of the Wadden Region Environmental Council in 2026.

The overview of members and representatives as of January 1 2026, is attached as **Appendix 1**.

3.2 Meetings of the Wadden Region Environmental Council in 2026

In 2026, five meetings of the Environmental Council are planned and a multi-day working visit to Esbjerg as well. See Table 1.

3.3 Annual agenda of meetings of the Environmental Council

The meetings of the Environmental Council take place in a cycle with the BOW, the MT Wadden and the meetings of the VOO. In addition, there are three Theme Meetings, the annual Bar Day (including a meeting between OBW members and the BOW) and the Wadden Dinner. This year, the Trilateral Governmental Conference will also take place in Esbjerg. The Environmental Council uses this conference for the annual multi-day working visit. The members and representatives have expressed their desire to visit and make use of this conference.

The 2026 Program will once again provide a lively interaction between government and the environment, between current events and the long-term goals. It also comes with a burden. Especially since the reports of Advies De Graeff and the Evaluation will be ready at the beginning of January. Furthermore, transitions, the projects and processes from the Agenda and the 2025-2026 Implementation Program are getting up to speed (see **Appendix 5**) and a new Implementation Program must be drawn up for the coming period, in addition to all kinds of autonomous processes.

Meeting dates 2026	Meeting	Time	Location
Thursday, January 22	1st OBW meeting	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM	The Hague
Thursday, March 5	2nd OBW meeting (prior to BOW-extra)	11:00 AM - 3:00 PM	HvdW
Thursday, May 21	3rd OBW meeting (Prior to BOW June 15)	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM	HvdW
Thursday, September 25	4th OBW meeting	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Online
Monday, November 9	5th OBW vergadering (prior to BOW december)	1:00 PM - 9:00 PM	On location
		3:00 PM - 8:00 PM	
Trilateral Conference	From May 27 to May 29 (departure May 26)		Esbjerg

Table 1: Meetings of the Wadden Region Environmental Council in 2026

For an Environmental Council and VOO participant, there will be approximately fifteen meetings and a multi-day working visit in 2026.

In summary, the following meetings will take place in 2026.

- 5 OBW meetings, 3 of which are in preparation for a BOW meeting
- 5 Preparatory meetings of the Preparatory Consultation, also called VOO
- 3 Thematic meetings
- Participation in the Bar Day including a meeting with members of the BOW
- Participation in the Wadden Dinner
- 3 BOW meetings on March 26, June 15 and December 2.
- Participation in the 4-yearly Trilateral Governmental Conference from May 27 to 29.
- Retreat moment, to be planned - partly in preparation for the 2027 annual plan.

Annual schedule of meetings for and with Wadden Region Environmental Council

Date	Who/what	Topic	Comments
Thursday, January 8	VOO	1st Meeting	Online
Thursday, January 22	OBW-members	breakfast members Hous of Representatives	The Hague
Thursday, January 22	OBW	1st OBW meeting	The Hague
Thursday, January 22	OBW/VOO	1st thematic meeting	The Hague
Monday, February 10	OBW	Wadden diner	The Hague
Wednesday, February 12	All parties involved	Wadden debate members House of Representatives	The Hague
Tuesday, February 17	VOO	2nd VOO meeting	Online
Thursday, March 5	OBW	2nd OBW meeting	House for the Wadden
Wednesday, May 6	VOO	3rd VOO meeting	Online
Thursday, May 21	OBW	3rd OBW meeting	House for the Wadden
Thursday, May 21	OBW/VOO	2nd thematic meeting	House for the Wadden
May 27 - May 29	OBW	Trilateral Conference Esbjerg	Esbjerg
Monday, June 15	Toogdag	The Bar Day	Den Helder
Monday, June 15	Toogdag	Meeting with BOW on 'The Bar Day'	Den Helder
Thursday, September 10	VOO	4th VOO meeting + working visit	Location: yet tot be determined
Thursday, September 24	OBW	4th OBW meeting	Online
Tuesday, Oktober 27	VOO	5th VOO meeting	Online
Monday, November 9	OBW/VOO	3rd thematic meeting	Location: yet tot be determined
Monday, November 9	OBW	5th OBW meeting	Including evening

Table 2: Annual schedule of meetings

Chapter 4. Commitment and ambition in 2026





4.1 Priority topics

There is a lot going on in the Wadden area. The number of (growing) topics creates a high workload for the members. The accumulation causes a loss of overview and the feeling is that the same conversation is being held in many places, without (interdepartmental) choices being made. **Appendix 5** includes a diagram with timelines of some of these processes. This overview is not exhaustive. In addition to the Programs and transitions from the Agenda and the 2021-2026 Implementation Program, topics have been added to the agenda, such as PAWOZ, Defence, PAGW (Programmatic Approach Large Waters), Wadden Delta Program, Revision of the North Sea Program and Location Research Eemshaven Nuclear Power Station. Important processes such as het Beleidskader Natuur Waddenzee (hereinafter: the Wadden Sea Nature Policy Framework), Fisheries Transition and MIRT (Multiannual Programma Infrastructure, Space and Transport) Ameland are taking longer than anticipated and will continue in 2026 and beyond. This requires (more) prioritization from the Environmental Council. This means that we select on which BOW agenda items we advise.

On December 4, 2025, the members discussed in mutual agreement which themes and topics they consider to be priorities for collective discussion. Part of the content is

partly determined by the agenda of the BOW. To provide the BOW with relevant advice, the meetings of the Environmental Council in May and November, prior to BOW meetings, are reserved for these overcrowded agendas. The OBW meeting in March will be dominated by the extra scheduled BOW on March 26 on the Evaluation and the De Graeff Advice. The Wadden Sea Nature Policy Framework will also be on the agenda. In the remaining OBW meetings in January and September, the time is spent on deepening the chosen priority themes.

In the eyes of the members, the most recent Stock Agenda of the BOW (Appendix 4) does not fully cover the strategic topics that they consider important for the Wadden Region. The recalibration of the Delta Program, the Revision of the North Sea Program, attention to World Heritage Management (and restoration), and Defence are lacking.

The Recreation and Tourism sector has drawn up a Manifesto for Tourism & Recreation in the Wadden Region in 2025. The sector itself makes the connection with organizations and governments for implementation. This manifesto will remain on our agenda in 2026, as well as in the elaboration of the De Graeff advisory report and the new Implementation Program.

In 2026, the Environmental Council will focus on the advice (and agenda) on

1. Elaboration of the De Graeff Advice and the Evaluation and the creation of the new Implementation Program. This also means focusing on sufficient, multi-year funding for the taskings. The sectors are working with the Wadden Academy on long-term socio-economic scenarios.
2. Water and Climate: this will take shape through the (transitions) Coastal and Climate Roadmap, the follow-up choices for the PAGW, and the review of the Delta Program
3. Restoration and strengthening of nature: this is done through the Wadden Sea Nature Policy Framework, the Nature Restoration Plan, revision of N2000 management plans and PAGW. We have advised on this in our Advisory Report on the European and international law status of the Wadden Sea. In doing so, we ask for attention to be paid to sufficient resources for recovery and investment in the transitions.
4. Energy transition and mining: including the follow-up to the landfall (VAWOZ), location research for the nuclear power plant and the Revision of the North Sea Program.
5. Impactful choices made in the MIRT Exploration Ameland and dredging.
6. Transition Fisheries such as described in the 2021-2026 Implementation Program: in 2026 the Future Vision for Shrimp Fisheries will be published.

The Environmental Council does not only provide advice in the form of letters of advice. Many processes have long timelines and a careful (legal) procedure. These timelines can be found in **Appendix 5**. The Environmental Council strives to advise at the beginning of a process on the involvement of stakeholders and the environment, participation and communication. This stems from our philosophy that successful policy is mainly achieved in the joint and early participation of government, science and civil society organizations.

In May, the Trilateral Governmental Declaration will be signed in Esbjerg, after which the Netherlands will hold the presidency for four years. Among other things, we are committed to strengthening stakeholder participation and trilateral attention to major challenges for defence and the energy transition. We encourage the Youth Council Wadden Region to be given a firm place on the agenda.

The Environmental Council, in collaboration with the Ministry of LNVN, is organizing several side events during the conference.

The Environmental Council also discusses the progress of the 2021-2026 Implementation Program every year and the realization of the goals every two years to see where adjustments are needed. In the second half of 2026, partly on the basis of the De Graeff Advisory Report and the Evaluation, a new Implementation Program will have to be drawn up that should bring the goals of the Agenda back within reach. The organizations represented in the Environmental Council want to be involved in this.

A new cabinet is expected to be appointed in the spring of 2026 and with-it new ministers from the four ministries in the BOW. An important question is what will be included in the new government Program in terms of priorities, policy and financial resources that affect the Wadden Region. Ideally, the results of the De Graeff Advice and the Evaluation will be included in the coalition agreement. The Environmental Council will make every effort to anchor this commitment from the government more firmly in the coming term of office. To achieve the main objectives of the Agenda, driven involvement and commitment from the central government and the region is crucial. For this reason, we attach great importance to the presence of the ministers of the State in the BOW.

4.2 Bar Day 2026

In 2026, in collaboration with the Wadden Fund, the annual conference will be held again, the so-called Bar Day (Toogdag) for the Wadden Region will be organized. This is scheduled for June 15, 2026. During the Bar Day, the meeting of the BOW also traditionally takes place. For the Environmental Council, the meeting and conversation with the board members of the BOW is an important part of this day.

The theme of this edition will be determined in early 2026 in consultation with the Wadden Fund and the members. At this year's Bar Day, we also want to use the opportunity to talk to the ministers present about current events, such as the decision-making process in response to the De Graeff Advice, the Evaluation and (possibly) a new coalition agreement: what will this mean for the Wadden Region in the future? In any case, the Youth Council Wadden Region will play an important role in the program in this edition. This year, the event is in the province of North Holland, in Den Helder.

4.3 International cooperation

In 2026, the 4-yearly Trilateral Governmental Conference will take place. Since the dissolution of the Wadden Sea Forum in 2024, no decision has yet been taken on stakeholder participation at the trilateral level in the Wadden Sea Board. This is an important topic for the Environmental Council. That is why we will draw attention to embedding stakeholder participation in our discussions with the Ministry of LNVN and the Common Wadden Sea Secretariat before and during the conference.

At the beginning of January, the Environmental Council will provide an advice on the content of the Ministerial Declaration and the Implementation Plan that goes with it. We encourage the Ministry of LNVN to give the Youth Council Wadden Region a place in the delegation and the program. During the multi-day event, we use the opportunity offered to organize or support several side events.

In the run-up to the Trilateral Governmental Conference, the Environmental Council is exploring the various variants of stakeholder involvement in trilateral cooperation and weighing up the efforts and expected results. We are exploring possibilities along three tracks: advising the Dutch delegation, involvement in the Wadden Seaboard meetings and more commitment from the CWSS to trilateral exchange and cooperation between stakeholders in (knowledge) Programs and initiatives. In our opinion, the latter can also be given a place in the new Implementation Program.

The working visit of the Environmental Council to the European Union in February 2025 taught us that a lot of policy and legislation is adopted in Brussels that is of great importance for the international Wadden Region and the achievement of the goals in the Agenda. We also found that there is little focus in Brussels on the Wadden Region as a region. In 2026, we want to involve the knowledge and relationships gained more in the priority bottlenecks and the preparation of the new Implementation Program.

4.4 Youth Council Wadden Region

The Environmental Council took in 2023 the initiative to set up a Youth Council Wadden Region, at the request of Director-General Slangen of the Ministry of LNVN. During the Bar Day 2025 in June, the Youth Council was presented to the public. Then they started working on their mission, map and program. The Youth Council puts all organizations in the Wadden Governance on the agenda and advises on request and unsolicited. So not only to the Environmental Council but parties across the board in the Wadden Region. Many parties now know where to find the young people and we expect them to be invited to the Wadden Dinner and various conferences of the members, Wadden Academy, Wadden Fund and governments.

The Youth Council Wadden Region "is not from" the Environmental Council. The Environmental Council has entered the pilot together with the Wadden Fund and the Wadden Academy for a period of two years until mid-2027. The organization and guidance lie with the Innovation Pact Fryslân. Multi-year financing and organization must be considered by mid-2026. As far as we are concerned, this will be given a place in the follow-up to the De Graeff Advisory Report on Wadden Governance.

We expect a lot from their commitment and involvement. In every meeting of the Environmental Council, they are given a seat at the table and are invited to advise us. The affiliation with the Environmental Council gives the members of the Youth Council Wadden Region a substantive impulse to also advise the BOW. During the Bar Day 2026, they will be given a place in the programming and the day itself.

The Environmental Council, together with the Ministry of LNVN, is committed to a strong representation of the Youth Council Wadden Region in Esbjerg. The voice of this generation can be bundled here trilaterally and give a signal to the new period of four years under the presidency of the Netherlands.

Chapter 5. Budget for the Wadden Region Environmental Council in 2026

5.1 Budget and annual plan method

In 2020, the Environmental Council was established as an advisory body within the Wadden Governance. The work of the Environmental Council is financed by the authorities in the Wadden Region (central government, municipalities, water boards and provinces) with a fixed distribution. This is included in the budget below.

The annual plan is drawn up by the bureau in the autumn. Since 2024, the approval of the annual plan has been entrusted to the MT Wadden. The bureau will submit the draft annual plan to the MT Wadden in November for a decision in principle, in particular on the financial frameworks and the outline of the Program. In November and December, the draft annual plan will be discussed in the Environmental Council. The members discuss the substantive focus, the knowledge agenda and the degree of activities and workload. With these adjustments, the annual plan will be submitted in writing, for final approval, to the MT Wadden and adopted. After approval, it is sent to the BOW for information.

Every year, an Annual Account Report with a report of the activities is drawn up and submitted to the BOW for approval. The settlement takes place on that basis. The Province of Fryslân facilitates the Environmental Council in the areas of personnel, ICT, travel options, housing and furnishing, communication, legal affairs, finances and requirements regarding government action. To this end, a DVO has been concluded with the province of Fryslân

5.2 Cost structure of the Wadden Region Environmental Council

Most of the costs of the Environmental Council are fixed cost items:

1. Salaries and personnel costs
2. Housing, ICT, digital and administrative services provided by the province of Fryslân
3. The Bar Day

Activities en expenses	2025	2026	Difference
1. Salaries and personnel costs	270.000	283.500	13.500 (5%)
2. Housing, administration and ICT	36.000	36.200	200 (0,56%)
3. The Bar Day	29.000	30.000	1.000 (3,45%)
4. Advice, communications and meeting costs	51.800	53.750	1.950 (3,76%)
5. BTW	20.400	20.954	554 (2,72%)
Total	407.200	424.404	17.204 (4,22%)

Table 3: Cost structure

The annual substantive and budgetary choices are therefore mainly limited to the budget available for the activities and initiatives under 4. The amount of these costs is also reflected in the VAT under 5.

This annual plan contains almost the same size of activities and initiatives for 2026 and therefore comparable costs for part 4.

Advice, communications and meetings	
Meeting expenses	6.000
(Mulyi-day) working visits	15.000
Events at the Esbjerg Conference	5.000
Sectoral activities	4.500
Communication	7.500
Youth Council	12.000
Advice and consultation	3.000
Unforeseen costs	750
Totaal	53.750

Table 4: Costs advice, communications and meetings

In 2026, there is a lot of commitment to trilateral cooperation and the 4-yearly conference in Esbjerg as an important moment in trilateral cooperation. The Environmental Council wants to attend this meeting with as many participants as possible and invest in side events with various stakeholders from Germany and Denmark. When the Annual Plan 2025 was adopted, it was decided to establish a Youth Council Wadden Region for (at least) the duration of two years. These estimated costs of 2 x € 12,000 are charged to the accrued reserve and are not at the expense of the programming of the Environmental Council itself.

In 2026, VAT is budgeted at € 20,954. The VAT is settled with the authorities according to the same distribution key at the end of each calendar year. The provinces and municipalities can compensate for VAT, which reduces the contribution by about 5% on balance.

5.3 Costs and indexation

Initially (in 2019), the budget was € 271,075. In 2022, the budget of the Environmental Council was structurally increased. This is based on the memorandum 'Approach to strengthening the Environmental Council' adopted by the BOW, which in 2020 was drawn up in response to the concise evaluation in 2021. When the above financial agreements were made, it was established that an annual indexation would take place, in line with the increase in salary costs and the increase in other costs for goods and services. As of the 2022 budget, in addition to the annual indexation of the contributions from the governments, it has been agreed to expand the capacity and the annual budget for the Bar Day.

The indexation for 2026 has been set by the Province of Fryslân at 5.00% for salaries (concerns 2/3 of the budget) and 2.70% for other costs (concerns 1/3 of the budget) respectively. For 2026, this means an average increase in contributions of 4.22%.

Percentage indexation on cost type specific		Total amounts 2026 (share of total)		Proportional allocation	
Increase salary costs (%)	5,00%	283.500	Percentage of the salary costs of the total budget	0,66	3,30%
Increase costs for goods and services including VAT (%)	2,70%	140.901	Percentage of the costs for goods and services including VAT of the total budget	0,34	0,92%
Average indexation	4,22%	424.401	Total	1,00	4,22%

Table 5: Indexation on cost type

5.4 Costs and government contributions in 2026

The total government contribution in 2025 amounted to € 395,577. As explained above, costs have increased compared to 2025 due to the 5% increase in salaries and a 2.7% increase in other costs. On balance, this means an increase of € 17,204, resulting in a total of € 412,417.

The costs associated with the proposed activities in the 2026 annual plan amount to € 412,417. This amount is higher than the total requested government contribution. The difference of € 11,988 - for the Youth Council Wadden Region - is covered in this budget from the reserve that has been created. An explanation can be found below.

5.5 Use of reserve

When the Annual Plan 2025 was adopted, a two-year pilot was chosen for a Wadden Region Youth Council. This was possible by co-financing from the reserves that had arisen during those two years. In the past five years, due to Covid measures and the long duration of the vacancy procedure for a director-secretary, several activities have not been picked up or (fully) carried out. In addition, the bureau closely monitors expenditure and supervises programming within the budgetary agreements. This has created reserves, as also accounted for in the 2024 Annual Report. For 2025, we expect that coverage from the reserve will not be required for the entire amount. As a result, the amount in the reserve at the end of 2025 is now estimated at approximately € 38,000. In 2025, the costs of € 12,000 for the Youth Council Wadden Region have been re-budgeted from the reserves.

For a safe lower limit of the reserve in the event of unexpected setbacks (e.g. energy costs or replacement in the event of illness) or unforeseen activities by the Environmental Council during the financial year, 20% of the variable working budget of € 140,000 has been considered. With this above coverage for the Youth Council Wadden Region of € 11,988, the estimate of the reserve at the end of 2026 is € 26,012. This is an acceptable margin.

Negative Result 2026	For the purpose of the Youth Council	- 11.988
Reserve 2025	Estimation in November 2025	38.000
	Coverage for the Youth Council	- 11.988
Reserve 2026	Based on this budget 2026	26.012
Safe lower limit reserve	20% annual working budget (140K)	28.000

Table 6: Safer lower limit reserve

5.6 Distribution key and contributions for 2026

The costs (including indexation) are divided among the central government, provinces, municipalities and water boards according to the agreed distribution key. For 2026, based on this allocation key, the cost allocation is as follows:

Contributions		2025	2026	Difference
Agreed distribution key	Governments			
0,34	National government	134.496	140.222	5.678
0,38	Provinces	150.319	156.718	6.346
0,19	Municipalities	75.168	78.359	3.173
0,09	Water authorities	35.615	37.117	1.503
Totaal inkomsten		395.577	412.417	16.699

Table 7: Distribution key and contributions for 2026

The provinces and municipalities can compensate for the VAT, which means that the contribution decreases by about 5% on balance.

5.7 Explanation of various parts

Re 1 Salaries and personnel costs € 283,500.

The formation of the Environmental Council is based on the memorandum 'approach to strengthening the Wadden Region Environmental Council' as introduced in the 2022 budget. The bureau has four employees, a total of 2.39 FTEs. Of these, 2.12 FTEs are included in this budget. The province of Fryslân will pay for 1/4 of the efforts of the director-secretary. No costs are included for the chairman. The chairmanship of the Environmental Council falls under the work of the CdK (Kings Commissioner), which he has taken on in his role as Lord of the Kingdom.

Re 2 Housing, administration and ICT € 36,200

The costs for housing are indexed compared to 2025. The Environmental Council pays the costs of housing to the Wadden Fund. A distribution key has been agreed between all users of the House for the Wadden. In 2024, the House for the Wadden will be made more sustainable. The rent has been raised, the energy costs are falling. How that will work out on balance is not yet definitively

clear at the beginning of December 2025. The energy costs therefore create some uncertainty in the budget: they will be calculated based on subsequent calculation. Due to the new system and the variable energy prices, this may deviate from the estimated costs. The province of Fryslân provides the administrative services for the Environmental Council. An amount of € 3,000 has been included in the budget for this.

Re 3 'Bar Day' for the Wadden Region € 30,000

Every year, the 'Bar Day' (Toogdag) is organized for all organizations and governments involved in the Wadden Region. The 'Bar Day' is an annual activity that the Environmental Council organizes (and finances) together with the Wadden Fund. The budgeted amount is in line with the costs of recent years. The BOW also takes place on this day. In this way, the members of the BOW and the Environmental Council can talk and meet each other.

Re 4 Advice, communication and meeting costs € 53,750

These are the costs arising from the activities, meetings and initiatives. This item is used to pay for meeting costs and the costs for working visits and theme meetings (including room rental, catering, organization). The Environmental Council has 15-20 meetings for 20 – 40 people during a calendar year, including members and authorities of both Environmental Council and the Preparatory Consultation. The theme meetings are also attended by colleagues and employees of the participating parties. Some are ad hoc and online.

In 2026, we will invest extra time in international cooperation, both in a trilateral and European context. In 2026, we will pay a multi-day visit to the Trilateral Governmental Conference in Esbjerg. The estimated costs for this are for travel, accommodation, room rental and accommodation costs. We also set course for meetings and side events with German and Danish counterparts from our sectors. € 5,000 has been reserved for this. We also want to give the Youth Council Wadden Region a platform and are committed to this together with the Ministry of LNVN.

In 2025, we started the Youth Council pilot. The total costs borne by the Environmental Council have been estimated at € 24,000 excluding VAT in 2025. In this annual plan, we again budget an amount of € 12,000.

Finally, we will continue to focus on the requested improvement of our communications for supporters and (transparent) public communication. An amount has been



included for the annual costs of communication, including a renewed website, material and advice. With the items Advice and assignments and Unforeseen we keep room for current requests for advice and/or unexpected overruns.

Re 5 VAT € 20,954

The costs that fall under the items 'Housing, administration and ICT', 'Bar Day for het Waddengebied', 'Advice and meeting costs' and 'Unforeseen' are subject to VAT. The budgeted VAT is an estimate based on an average of 15% (experience figure) over items 2, 3 and 4 on which VAT must be paid (i.e. including the indexation of those amounts), i.e. € 20,954 for 2026.

On January 1, 2003, the VAT compensation fund was introduced at municipalities and provinces. The VAT that has been paid can also be compensated for the Environmental Council. The administration of the province of Fryslân does pay these bills including VAT, but writes them off excluding VAT. At the end of the financial year, the amount of VAT paid is checked. This total amount is passed on to the authorities according to the distribution key. The budget of the Environmental Council must consider this tax of VAT to the partners of the Environmental Council.

5.8 Total budget 2026

Activities	2026	
Expenses		
1. Salaries and personnel costs		
	Director-secretary (0,67)	
	Strategic advisor (0,67)	
	Deputy secretary (0,45)	
	Secretariat (0,33)	
	Travel and accomodation costs	
	2,1 FTE	283.500
2. Housing, administration and ICT		
	Fixed rental costs	20.000
	(Variable) energycosts	5.700
	Training / education	2.500
	Digital services	5.000
	Administrative services	3.000
		36.200
3. The Bar Day for the Waddensea Region		
	The Bar Day for the Wadden Region	30.000
		30.000
4. Advice, communications and meetings		
	Meeting costs	6.000
	(Multi-day) working visit	15.000
	Events at the Esbjerg Conference	5.000
	Sectoral activities	4.500
	Communication	7.500
	Youth Council	12.000
	Advice and consultation	3.000
	Unforeseen costs	750
		53.750
5. VAT		
	VAT	20.954
		20.954
Total		424.404

Activities	2026	
Contributions		
Agreed distribution key + average index 2026 4,22%		
0,34	National Government	140.222
0,38	Provinces	156.718
0,19	Municipalities	78.359
0,09	Water boards	37.117
Total contributions		412.417
Negative Result 2026	For the purpose of the Pilot Youth Council	- 11.988
		Ultimo 25
Reserve 2025	Estimation November 2025	38.000
	Coverage Youth Council	- 11.988
Reserve 2026	Based on this budget 2026	26.012
Safe lower limit reserve	20% annual working budget (140K)	28.000

Table 8: Total contributions

Attachments

Appendix 1: Composition of the Wadden Region Environmental Council

Name	Organisation
1 Mr. A.A.M Brok	Independent chairman
2 Mrs. J. Bakker	Member on behalf of the nature and environmental organizations
3 Mr. K. Schipperheijn	Member on behalf of the nature and environmental organizations
4 Mr. A. Risseeuw	Member on behalf of the fisheries
5 Mrs. H. van Wijk	Member on behalf of the seaports
6 Mrs. T. de Vries	Member on behalf of the agriculture
7 Mr. M. Cnossen	Member on behalf of recreation and tourism
8 Mrs. K. Philippart	Member on behalf of science
9 Mr. P. van Velzen	Representative on behalf of the ministry of LNV
10 Mrs. L. van Duin	Representative on behalf of the ministry of IenW
11 Mr. A. Beenen	Representative on behalf of the ministry of KGG
12 Mr. A. Hoogerwerf	Representative on behalf of the Wadden Provinces Steering Group
13 Mr. M. Schrier	Representative on behalf of the Common Regulation Wadden Islands
14 Mr. P. Schoute	Representative on behalf of the Association of Wadden Sea Municipalities
15 Mr. F. Jorna	Representative on behalf of the water boards concerned
16 Mrs. A. Borst	Representative on behalf of the Wadden Sea Management Authority
17 Mr. E.J de Jonge	Agenda member on behalf of the Ministry of Defense

Appendix 2: Annual meeting schedule 2026 Wadden Region Environmental Council

Date	Meeting	Time	Location
OBW			
Thursday, January 8	1st OBW meeting + thematic meeting	10:00 am - 1:00 pm	The Hague
Thursday, March 5	2nd OBW meeting	11:00 am - 3:00 pm	House for the Wadden
Thursday, May 21	3rd OBW meeting + thematic meeting	10:00 am - 3:00 pm	House for the Wadden
Thursday, September 24	4th OBW meeting	10:00 am - 3:00 pm	Online
Monday, November 9	5th OBW meeting + thematic meeting	3:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Location: yet to be determined
VOO			
Thursday, January 8	1st preparation OBW Januari 22	9:30 am - 12:30 pm	Online
Tuesday, February 17	2nd preparation OBW March 5	9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Online
Wednesday, May 6	3rd preparation OBW May 21	9:30 am - 12:30 pm	Online
Thursday, September 10	4th preparation OBW September 24 (+ working visit)	10:00 am - 4:00 pm	location: yet to be determined
Tuesday, October 27	5th preparation OBW November 9	9:30 am - 12:30 pm	Online
Thematic meetings			
Thursday, January 22	Theme to be determined	1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	The Hague
Thursday, May 21	Theme to be determined	1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	House for the Wadden
Monday, November 9	Theme to be determined	1:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Location: yet to be determined
The Bar Day			
Monday, June 15	Including BOW and meeting BOW and OBW	9:30 am - 5:00 pm	Den Helder
BOW			
Thursday, March 26	BOW	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	The Hague
Monday, June 15	BOW	10:00 am - 4:00 pm	Den Helder
Wednesday, December 2	BOW	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	The Hague

Appendix 3: Stock agenda meetings and topics 2026 Wadden Region Environmental Council

Stock agenda meetings and topics					
	Date	Who/what	Topic	Responsible	Comments
1.	January 8	VOO	1st VOO meeting	Bureau	Digitaal
			Preparation OBW January 22 2026		
			Priorities OBW		
			Priorities OBW		
a	January 22	OBW	Breakfast OBW and members of the House of Representatives	Bureau	The Hague
			Topics	Members	
1.	January 22	OBW	1st OBW meeting	Bureau	The Hague
			Introduction by one of the members	Members	
			De Graeffs advice		
			Evaluation advice		
			Youth Council		
			Priorities OBW		
			Priorities OBW		
1.	January 22	OBW/VOO	Thematic meeting	Bureau	The Hague
			BKN /Nature Plan		
			Priorities OBW		
			Priorities OBW		
b	February 10	OBW	Wadden diner	Provinces	The Hague
c	February 12	all	Wadden debate	TK	The Hague
2.	February 17	VOO	2nd VOO meeting	Bureau	Online
			Preparation OBW March and extra BOW March		
			Beleidskader Natuur Waddenzee		
2.	March 5	OBW	2nd OBW meeting	Bureau	House for the Wadden
			Introduction by one of the members	Members	
			Preparation extra BOW		
			Priorities OBW		
			Priorities OBW		
			Esbjerg Preparation		
			Youth Council		
1.	March 26	BOW	Extra BOW	BOW-buro	
			Advice evaluation Agenda en UP Waddengebied		
			De Graeffs advice		
3.	May 6	VOO	3rd VOO meeting	Bureau	
			Preparation OBW = BOW meeting		
			Priorities OBW		
			Priorities OBW		
3.	May 21	OBW	3rd OBW meeting	Bureau	
			Introduction by one of the members	Members	
			Evaluation De Graeffs advice		
			The final coordination for Esbjerg		
			Preparation meeting OBW BOW		
			Preparation BOW vmeeting	MT	
			Beleidskader Natuur Waddenzee		
			Youth Council		
			"Annual report 2025"		

2.	May 21	OBW/VOO	Thematic meeting	Bureau	
			Priorities OBW		
			Priorities OBW		
d	May 26 - May 29	OBW	Trilateral Conference Esbjerg	LVVN	
			Declaration		
			Youth Council		
			Side Events		
e	June 15	The Bar Day	Theme	Bureau	Input Youth Council
e	June 15	OBW	Meeting with BOW on 'The Bar Day'	Bureau	
			Priorities OBW		
			Priorities OBW		
2.	June 15	BOW	On the Bar Day	BOW-secretariat	
			De Graeffs' advice and Evaluation Agenda		
			Beleidskader Natuur Waddenzee		
			Adoption of annual report		
			Transition coast and climate		
			Nature recovery plan		
			UNESCO		
			Ecosystem-based dredging program		
4.	September 10	VOO	4th VOO meeting + working visit	Bureau	
			Preparation OBW		
			Priorities OBW		
			Priorities OBW		
4.	September 25	OBW	4th OBW meeting	Bureau	
			Introduction by one of the members	Members	
			Priorities OBW		
			Priorities OBW		
			Youth Council		
			Aandacht Jongerenberaad		
5.	October 27	VOO	5th VOO meeting	Bureau	
			Preparation OBW = BOW meeting		
3.	November 9	OBW/VOO	Thematic meeting	Bureau	
			Priorities OBW		
			Priorities OBW		
5.	November 9	OBW	5e OBW vergadering	Bureau	
			Introduction by one of the members	Members	
			Preparation BOW meeting		no other topics possible
			Annual plan 2027		
			Youth Council		
			Priorities OBW		
			Priorities OBW		
3.	December 2	BOW	BOW meeting	BOW-secretariat	The Hague
			Implementation Program 2027-2031		
			onderwerpen		
			onderwerpen		

Appendix 4: Stock agenda BOW (version November 4, 2025)

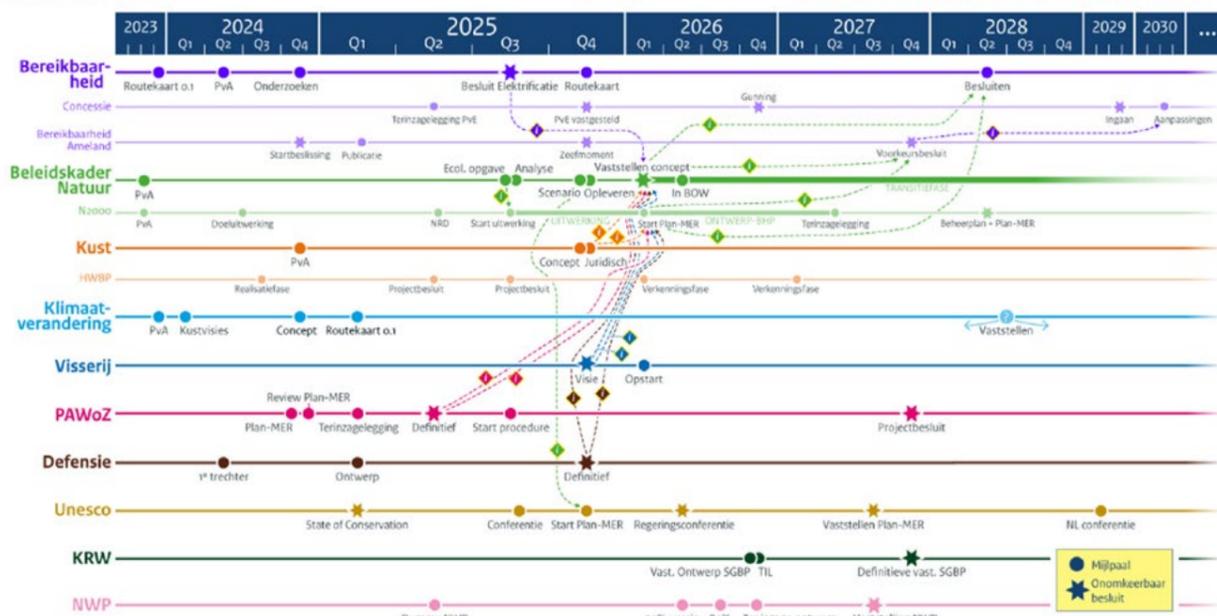
Date	Topic	Responsible
March 2026		
	Advice Evaluation Agenda en UP Waddengebied	IenW/provincies/OBW
	De Graeffs' advice	IenW/provincies/OBW
June 2026		
	De Graeffs' advice and Evaluation Agenda	IenW/provincies/OBW
	Beleidskader Natuur Waddenzee	LVVN
	Annual Plan OBW 2027	OBW
	Coastal and Climate Transition	Provincies en water boards
	Nature recovery plan	LVVN
	UNESCO	LVVN
	Ecosystem-based dredging program	RWS,WSMA, CWN, Seaports
dec-26	Implementation Program 2027-2031	

Appendix 5: Timelines Major Programs

Basislijnen Wadden
September 2025



Ontwikkeling Waddengebied 2023-2030
SAMENHANG TRANSITIES EN PROGRAMMA'S





**Wadden Region
ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL**