

Two Full Professors/chairholders Earth Systems and Global Change, Wageningen University & Research

We are looking for

We are looking for two innovative, dynamic and inspiring full professors/chairholders to co-chair the Earth Systems and Global Change (ESC) group—at Wageningen University & Research: a professor/chairholder in Environmental Systems Analysis (ESA), and a professor/chairholder in Water Systems and Global Change (WSG). Both are figureheads in their fields to join Wageningen University & Research (0.8 - 1.0 fte).

Mission of the Earth Systems and Global Change Group

The mission of the ESC group is to improve the understanding of the impacts of global change on earth systems to contribute to sustainable futures.

The ambitions of ESC are:

- To improve our understanding of Earth systems in a changing global environment
- To investigate the impacts of a changing global environment on nature and society
- To contribute to the development and implementation of innovative tools, models and methods to better manage environmental systems
- To investigate land and water based options to mitigate global change
- To develop and assess sustainable measures and pathways to adapt to these futures
- To educate students in land, water and climate systems, global change and biodiversity and in inter- and transdisciplinarity
- To engage in finding solutions for land, water, climate and biodiversity problems
- To facilitate a transition towards sustainable systems worldwide

In our research and teaching we combine quantitative, qualitative and multi- and transdisciplinary approaches.

Research

Our research focuses on the earth systems climate, water, land, and nature, the interaction between these systems and with society. We study how global change affects the interactions between these systems and how we can reduce the impacts of global change through mitigation and adaptation. In our methodologies, we combine model development, integrated assessments, data collection and transdisciplinary approaches to study impacts of global change, develop innovative solutions and co-develop adaptation strategies.

Education and PhD Training

The staff members teach courses at BSc and MSc level. ESC plays a key role in the study programmes Environmental Sciences (BES, MES), Marine Sciences (BMS), Urban Environmental Management (MUE), Climate Studies (MCL), International Land and Water Management (BIL, MIL) and Tourism (BTO, MTO) of Wageningen University, and contributes to other programmes. We teach courses, and train PhD candidates in the broad interdisciplinary field of earth systems and global change, and more specialist and in-depth courses in environmental systems analysis and water systems and global change. Typical for this education and training is that it is multi, inter- or transdisciplinary, where students and PhD candidates learn to understand the complexity of environmental problems and explore integrated tools, methods and solutions from the perspective of both natural and social sciences using quantitative and qualitative approaches.

The Group

The group Earth Systems and Global Change brings together a unique combination of people with backgrounds in ecology, hydrology, meteorology, and environmental sciences. It is a large group consisting of several personal professors, special professors, associate and assistant professors, lecturers and other tenured staff members. In addition, more than 50 PhD candidates are supervised by current staff. The ESC

staff works closely together with staff of other chair groups on interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary topics for which the connection of disciplines is essential. The ESC group is part of the Environmental Sciences Group (ESG). The ESC group is divided in 7 different subgroups, each focusing on a specific topic related to earth systems and global change: (1) Water Quality, (2) Nutrients, Food & Environment, (3) Biodiversity & Ecosystem, Services, (4) Water, Climate, Food, (5) Land Based Mitigation, (6) Climate Services and Adaptation and (7) Empower Sustainable Futures. [link to new ESC website]

Two vacancies

We are looking for two full professors/chairholders to co-lead the group Earth Systems and Global Change. As co-leaders, you will support the group's research ambitions by further strengthening its position in national and international networks, by managing its internal processes and relations in a constructive and cooperative way, and by strengthening established research lines and bringing in novel ideas. In addition, you will play an active role in education at the undergraduate and graduate level. You will also give new impulses to further develop the contents of courses, teaching methods, and the coherence of the education programmes in which it takes part. You will ensure the group provides a supportive working environment to academics at a range of career levels. Strengthening the acquisition of external funding for research, and attracting PhD candidates are key elements of your responsibility. The group is efficiently organised and supported by dedicated secretarial, financial and HR advisors. The group and student community is largely international and the courses of the group are taught in English.

Vacancy 1: Professor/chairholder Environmental Systems Analysis (ESA)

The professor/chairholder of Environmental Systems Analysis has a unique focus and quality with respect to the development of methodologies, tools and approaches for integrative environmental research. ESA is well-known for its systemic modelling approach: an approach that accounts for the interactions and interdependencies in social-ecological systems that are relevant for addressing complex environmental problems. The ESA professor/chairholder leads the fields of conceptual development and improvement of innovative, integrated research tools and methodologies that investigate environmental problems and sustainability challenges, often with an inter- or transdisciplinary focus. The tools use both quantitative and participatory approaches. ESA applies these tools to advance scientific understanding of environmental problems from local to global scales and to contribute to the understanding of and solutions for environmental problems by policy and decision support. The focus is on the following themes: (i) climate change, (ii) biodiversity and ecosystem services, (iii) integrated nutrient impact modelling and (iv) pollution management. These themes are applied across rural, urban and natural environments, with a focus on terrestrial systems.

Vacancy 2: Professor/chairholder Water Systems and Global Change (WSG)

The professor/chairholder of Water Systems and Global Change leads the field towards improved understanding of anthropogenically driven changes in water cycles in relation to interactions between climate, water, energy, agricultural and environmental systems. This includes the dynamic feedbacks and interactions between water resources and global change, modelled and observed at different spatial and temporal scales; impacts of global change on water, agricultural and energy sectors, including trade-offs, vulnerabilities and risks; and opportunities to reduce impacts of global change through different adaptation and mitigation strategies for water and agriculture. One of the focus areas will be developing adaptation and mitigation strategies; comprising of novel approaches such as adaptive water management and ecosystem-based adaptation. The WSG professor/chairholder is expected to strive for an integrated approach across the water, food and energy systems. The focus is on the following themes: (i) water, climate and food, (ii) water quality, (iii) land-based mitigation, and (iv) climate services and adaptation. These themes are studied at global to regional scales, and applied across rural, urban and natural environments, with a focus on water systems.

We ask for the two vacant professor/chairholder positions

- A doctorate (PhD degree) in environmental sciences, preferably with a focus on the quantitative environmental systems analysis (vacancy 1) or a focus on water systems and global change (vacancy 2). At least one of the two professors should have expertise in climate science.
- An outstanding scientific track record and international research profile;

- The ability to manage professionals and have an inspiring, collegial, and unifying leadership style characterized by a passion to develop people, to build teams, and to create synergy;
- An inspiring long-term vision regarding the development of the scientific field, the research agenda and the teaching profile in the ESA or WSG domain;
- A broad international network, as well as active involvement and experience with effective interaction with stakeholders and in the societal dialogue;
- A keen interest to work in an interdisciplinary environment;
- A proven record in acquisition of research funds from national and international agencies;
- An outstanding vision on and record in teaching, mentoring and course development, at both undergraduate and graduate levels, with an ability to work with students from a wide range of backgrounds;
- Experience in management, and ability to harvest synergies between ongoing activities;
- Excellent command of English and – for international applicants – willingness to learn Dutch.

We offer

You will be working for an inspiring international organisation with a large number of interdisciplinary projects all over the world. The scientific quality of Wageningen University is affirmed by the prominent position we occupy in international rankings and citation indexes. We offer you a challenging position as full professor and chairholder. Besides a competitive salary (maximum gross salary for starting professors is € 9.680,- per month), we offer several additional benefits, such as an end-of- year- extra month's salary, a holiday allowance, and a pension plan with the Dutch pension fund for government and education.

More information

Further information about the position can be obtained from professor dr Huub Rijnaarts, Chair of the Appointment Advisory Committee (Email: Tel: +31 XXXXXXXX). More detailed information on the vacancy profiles and the ESC group is available upon request (via johan.feenstra@wur.nl, secretary of the Committee).

Application

You are invited to upload your complete application via the apply button on this page.

Your application should include:

- An application letter with curriculum vitae
- A separate list of publications
- Your vision on research and education in the domain of the Chair (Max 2 pages).

The closing date for applications is **DATE**.

The Appointment Advisory Committee will **interview** selected candidates for this position on **DATE**. The Committee will thereafter invite short-listed candidates for a **second interview and a trial lecture on DATE**.

A possible assessment could be part of the procedure.

Coming from abroad

Wageningen University & Research is the university and research centre for life sciences. The themes we deal with are relevant to everyone around the world and Wageningen, therefore, has a large international community and a lot to offer to international employees.

Applicants from abroad moving to the Netherlands may qualify for a special tax relief, by which 30% of their salary is exempt from tax. Our team of advisors on Dutch immigration procedures will help you and your family with the visa application procedures, and a specialized staffing agency will help your partner to find a job. Furthermore, you will get assistance with other issues, such as housing and schools for your children. Wageningen has excellent public schools and there are also international schools nearby in Arnhem.

Feeling welcome also has everything to do with being well informed. The following webpages contain (practical) information about what we can do to support international employees and students coming to Wageningen (<https://www.wur.nl/en/Jobs/Moving-to-the-Netherlands.htm> and <https://www.wur.nl/en/International-students-and-staff.htm>).

Equal opportunity employer

We are an equal opportunity employer and welcome applications from all suitably qualified persons regardless of their race, sex, disability, religion/belief, sexual orientation or age. We believe that a diverse and inclusive work environment makes us a more relevant, more competitive, and more resilient organization.

We believe that a diverse and inclusive working environment makes us a more relevant, competitive and resilient organization. Click [here](#) for more information about working at WUR with a functional impairment

WE ARE

Wageningen University & Research

The mission of our University is "To explore the potential of nature to improve the quality of life". Within Wageningen University & Research, nine specialised research institutes from the Wageningen Research Foundation and Wageningen University have joined forces to help answer the most important questions in the domain of healthy food and living environment. With approximately 30 locations, 6,500 employees, and 12,000 students, it is one of the leading organisations in its domain worldwide. An integrated approach to problems and the cooperation between various disciplines are at the heart of the unique approach of Wageningen.

Could you be one of these people? We give you the space you need. For further information about working at Wageningen University & Research, take a look at our [career page](#) and see our campus [here](#).