

# EU SOIL DAY

#EUsoilDay

Soil Health in the Municipality of Leeuwarden – Cities  
Northern Netherlands

**Speakers:** Jeanet van Dellen, Senior Advisor & Gosse Hoekstra,  
Policy Advisor on Soil, Municipality of Leeuwarden

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Brussels, EU Soil Day  
November 6th, 2023

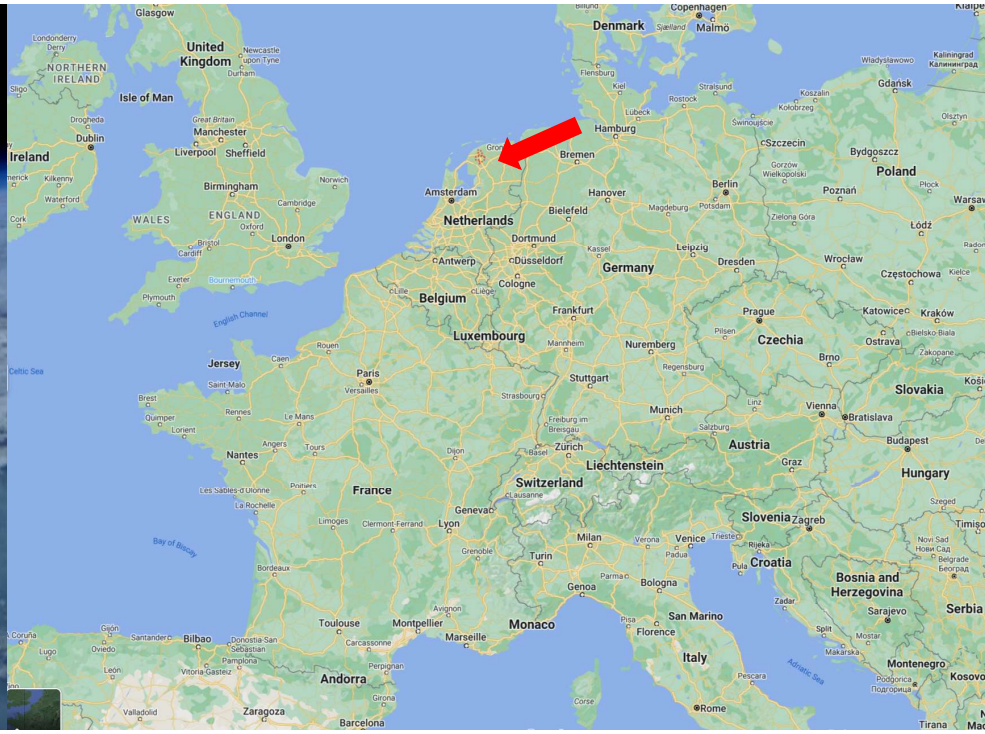
Gosse Hoekstra & Jeanet van Dellen  
*Municipality of Leeuwarden*

# Leeuwarden's approach on soil

the City as a Campus,  
the Region as a Living Lab

Gemeente  Leeuwarden





## Leeuwarden: a city and 35 villages



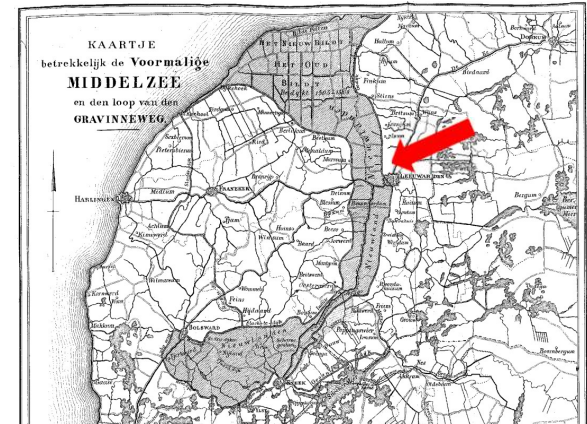
### Inhabitants:

- Municipality 127.073
- City 95.920

# Different perspectives on Soil

## 1. Historical and geographical perspective

- implications for current policy choices
- Leeuwarden has made a biography of the landscape



## 2. Knowledge position and Economic opportunities

- Water and Soil guiding principles in spatial planning
- Campuses, innovation and business opportunities



## 3. Healthy Soil seen as a driver of sustainable development and circular economy

- Strong agricultural and food industry in the area
- Healthy urban living environment (urban soils)

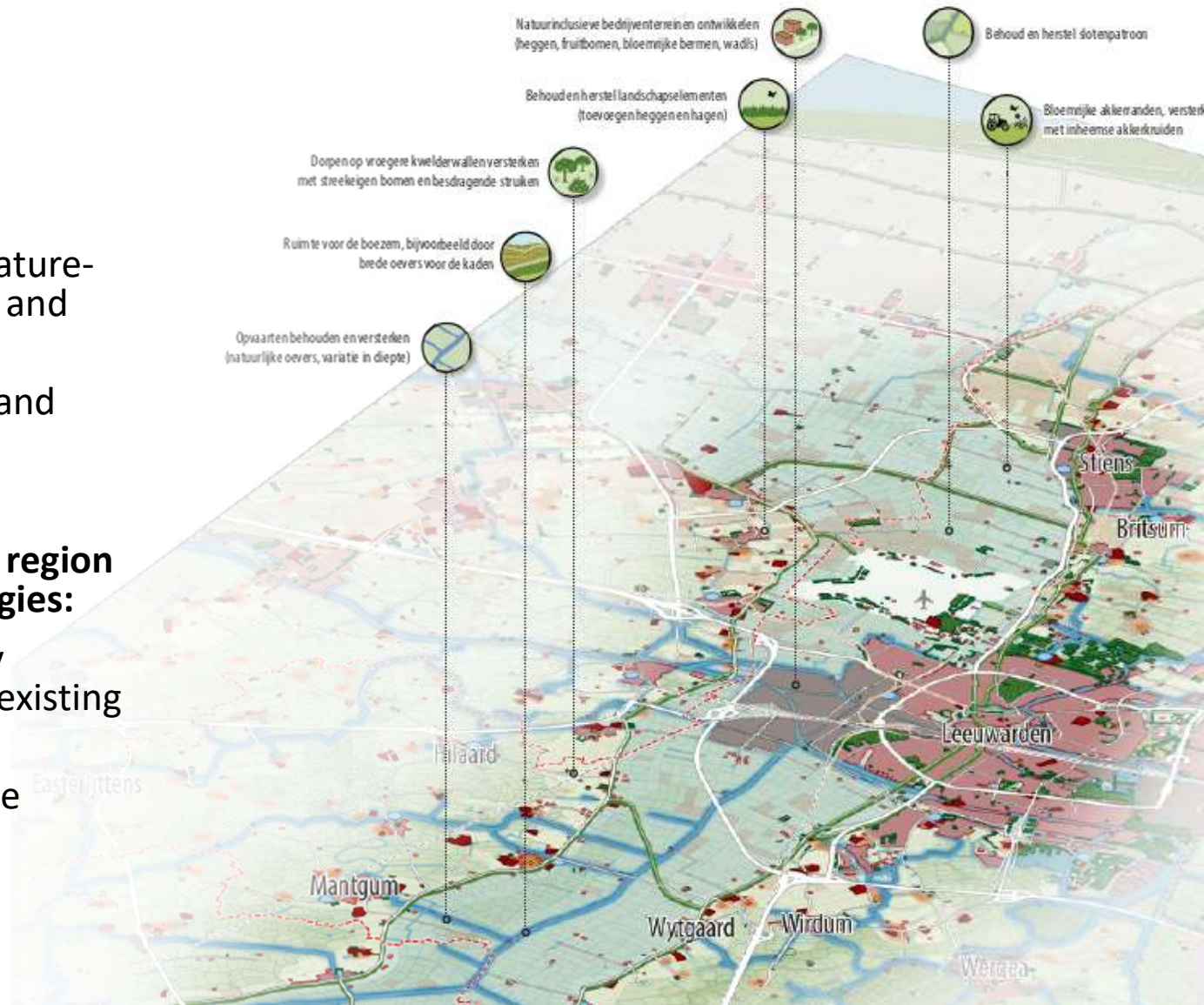


# Vision “Natuerlik Ljouwert 2050”

- Developed in cooperation with nature- and environmental organisations and province/regional government
- Prepared by landscape architect and ecological consultancy

## Leeuwarden is a front runner in the region with in depth analysis of soil typologies:

- Future spatial planning guided by characteristics of soil, water and existing nature
- "Building blocks" for designing the landscape
- Sharing knowledge with partners



# Practical examples in Leeuwarden on soil health



- <https://www.groenleeftinleeuwarden.nl>
- Pilot Bokashi
- No chemical pesticides/herbicides
- Setting up a “soil exchange”
- Circular earthmoving
- Cooperation and knowledge transfer by various authorities and public in Fryslân
- “Useless pavement/ soil sealing” tool in development

# The city as campus, the region as a living lab (1)

- City of Leeuwarden has a strong knowledge infrastructure with strong links to Soil Health
- Region boasts innovative companies, pilots and living labs
- Campus as an ecosystem of education, innovation and business
- Triple helix collaboration



Leeuwarden's approach on soil



# The city as campus, the region as a living lab (2)

- Build upon existing structures
- Secure position as leading agricultural region
- Province of Fryslan and VHL have applied to become a European Living Lab
- Soil Campus Leeuwarden? Viability check with all involved parties.
- Attract (new) business related to Soil Health topic
- Role of municipality often facilitating and connecting



s approach on soil





# Challenges and Collaboration

- Recommendation to adapt legislation to increase circular use; closing nutrient cycles => no waste
- Interest in collaboration regarding wide array of Soil projects with European partners
- Open for knowledge exchange
- [jeanet.vandellen@leeuwarden.nl](mailto:jeanet.vandellen@leeuwarden.nl)
- [gosse.hoekstra@leeuwarden.nl](mailto:gosse.hoekstra@leeuwarden.nl)





# Thank you for your attention!

Are there any questions?