

Green Labs NL – Annual Report 2025

1. Foreword

In this report, we share the goals, members and activities of the foundation Green Labs NL across the year 2025.

2. About Green Labs NL

Green Labs NL is a bottom-up initiative that was founded in 2021 by members of the Dutch scientific community, with a passion for sustainability and planetary health.

Vision

Green Labs NL strives to accelerate the transition towards a just and sustainable laboratory environment and scientific landscape in the Netherlands and beyond.

Mission

Green Labs NL works on embedding just and sustainable scientific practices into the science and laboratory community by running local and (inter)national projects, and through knowledge and movement building. In addition, it is our mission to equip current and future professionals with knowledge, skills, and reflective capabilities needed to minimise the negative social and environmental impacts of scientific research and laboratory work through educational innovations.

Identity

Green Labs NL was founded in 2021 to connect and support the growing number of local grass root initiatives, such as laboratory green teams. Green Labs NL has built expertise and network to progress the green science movement at national and international level.

3. Board Members

The Green Labs board was constituted as follows on 31 December 2025:

Chair: Joep Sprangers

Secretary: Aram de Haas

Treasurer: Mandy Erkelens

Vice-chair: Florijn Dekkers

4. Green Labs NL members

The following people were core members of the Green Labs NL team on 31 December 2025:

Florijn Dekkers
 Boaz Chemtob
 Thomas Freese
 Gabriela Dankova
 Yusuf Bilgehan Arik
 Aram de Haas
 Rolf Slaats
 Mandy Erkelens
 Marit de Kort
 Joep Sprangers
 Hannah van de Kerkhof

5. Key Activities and Highlights

a. Talks and Events

In 2025, Green Labs NL members participated in the following events, talks and workshops:

| Date | GLNL speaker | Type | Name event | Topic Talk | Host |
|---------------|--------------|------|---|-------------------------------|--|
| 20/03/2025 | Joep | Talk | International week | Sustainability in the lab | University of applied sciences upper Austria |
| 24/03/2025 | Joep | Talk | NIOZ seminar - Greenlabs | Sustainability in the lab | NIOZ |
| 03/04/2025 | Mandy | Talk | Kennisplatform Lab Managers | Sustainability in the lab | Check Mark |
| 03-04/04/2025 | Marit | Talk | LEAN King's college London workshop days | Education and sustainability | LEAN/King's college |
| 10/04/2025 | Joep | Talk | NVVP | Sustainability in the lab | NVVP - Dutch Association of Pathology |
| 29/04/2025 | Florijn | Talk | Heidelberg Sustainable Research symposium: Fit for the Future | Sustainable movement building | EMBL and EMBO |
| 03/06/2025 | Aram | Talk | Erasmus MC minisymposium | Sustainability in the lab | Erasmus MC |

| | | | | | |
|------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| 19/06/2025 | Hannah/Joep/Aram/Thomas | Talk/roundtable | Freezer Roundtable | Sustainable Freezer management | Hubrecht institute |
| 15/09/2025 | Joep | Talk | OncoProTools - PhD consortium | Sustainability in the lab | Antwerp University |
| 09/10/2025 | Hannah | Talk | LEAF symposium | Sustainability in the lab | Leiden University |
| 28/10/2025 | Joep | Pitch | Pitch for 1% for the planet | | CST |
| 07/11/2025 | Aram | Talk | KWR/LMO | Sustainability in the lab | KWR |
| 24/11/2025 | Hannah | Talkshow | Sustainability Cafe | | AstraZeneca |

b. Summary of Green Labs NL activities and publications in 2025

Activities

- Green Labs NL strategy meetings

In 2025, Green Labs NL held two strategy meetings, where all core members were invited. During these meetings, we reviewed the current vision and goals for the foundation, and decided on priorities for the upcoming 6 months.

- Green Labs NL community

We set up a Green Labs NL community where people can sign up via the website (145 members on 31st December 2025). Three newsletters were sent out to this community during 2025 and 1 community event was organized.

- On 19th of June, together with the Hubrecht Institute, the Freezer Roundtable event was organised to share practical solutions, scientific data, and best practices for sustainable freezer management. Green Labs NL member Hannah van de Kerkhof was in the lead of organising the event with contributions from Joep Sprangers, Aram de Haas and Thomas Freese

- National Freezer Challenge 2025

After the 2024 Q4 pilot in the UMC Utrecht, the National Freezer Challenge 2025 was organized together with the UMCNL Sustainable Labs working group. Green Labs NL hosted the project page on our website and handled the participation of external institutes (outside the Dutch University Medical Centers).

-Heidelberg Sustainable Research symposium: Fit for the Future

Green Labs NL was well represented at the Heidelberg Sustainable Research symposium and the EMBO policy workshop. Florijn Dekkers contributed to the symposium with a plenary talk.

-EMBO policy workshop

The Heidelberg symposium was followed by a policy workshop to develop tools for greening research. Green Labs NL was represented by Florijn Dekkers.

- Educational activities

The second e-module on Just and Sustainable Science Practices was launched in 2025 with contributions from the Green Labs NL members in collaboration with the UMC Utrecht and other experts.

Also, Florijn Dekkers gave a presentation on education at the 'London event' organized by UKRI and EMBO

Publications

- Florijn Dekkers contributed to a scientific paper about organizing a data cleaning challenge: [Eleven quick tips for organizing a data cleaning challenge | PLOS Computational Biology](#)

- EMBO Lab Sustainability award

In 2025, Green Labs NL, together with LEAN, was awarded the EMBO Lab Sustainability award. The prize money will be used for further development of our educational tools

-Seed grant UU for planetary health

We received a seed grant planetary health from Utrecht University to organize a satellite event in Utrecht of our Green Science Festival.

-OCW project

The project on the implementation of tools and training and the development of policies/guidelines/concordat for systemic transition of the sector, together with the ministry of education, culture and science (OCW) and the Climate Initiative Netherlands (KIN) was finished in 2025.

6. Financial Overview

- Income

This year, we received one donation for the organization of the Green Science Festival 2026. We received the prize money from the EMBO sustainability award (see above) Our other income was based on speaker fees for talks and workshops, or hourly fees from on project-based work.

- Spendings

We spent a part of our income on administrative tasks, such as domain fees, Zoom subscription, and

bank fees. Also, we launched our new website, resulting in designer and maintenance costs. A large sum also was spent on the accountant, which is a requirement for ANBI status.

A part was also spent on our strategy meetings, by organising a meeting room and a dinner for our (mostly volunteering) core members.

For a more detailed overview of our finances, please refer to the financial year report 2025.

7. Goals for 2026

- Organization of the first Green Science festival
 - Continue with workshops and talks for knowledge spread
 - Maintain and improve financial stability for the foundation
 - Stay informed and contribute to the SPARKhub development.
 - Submit NWO sustainable science grant for SPARKhub pilot
 - Roll out the Data Cleaning Challenge as part of UMCNL Green Deal Sustainable Healthcare project
 - Continue the development of (inter)national standards for sustainability in research, together with collaboration partners such as the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, NWO, NWO-KIN, EMBO and UKRI.
 - Maintain our community using the newsletter and by organising community events
 - Develop e-learning module on Green Chemistry
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9. Acknowledgements

We thank our core members and Green Labs NL associates for all their efforts towards the goals of the Green Labs NL foundation.

10. Approval of the year report

On 07/05/2026 the core team and board of Green Labs NL voted to approve the year report and financial year report.

11. Appendices

Find the financial year report on our website.