# GROW Community event 2025

Global Research on Worldwide Challenges

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| We are a network of internationally collaborating universities from the **Netherlands**, with longstanding partnerships in **academia and society**, as well as in **Low and Middle Income Countries**.  We believe that **research** is vital to understanding and addressing the **UN Sustainable Development Goals**. Our **core value** is to build and foster research and implementation collaborations based on **equity**.  We unite a **community of research partners** to learn together, leverage each other's networks and knowledge, and jointly **build an expanding portfolio** of impactful research projects. |

**15 May 2025**

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| **Time** | **What** | **Description** |
| 13.30h | **Start and welcome** | **By GROW community coordinators**  Roel Kamerling, MSc  Prof.Dr.Ir. Nick van de Giesen |
| 13.45h | **Keynote Talk**  **SDG oriented research in a rapidly changing world** | **Prof.dr. Thea Hilhorst**  ([ISS-Erasmus University Rotterdam](https://www.eur.nl/people/thea-hilhorst)), [Spinoza Laureate](https://www.eur.nl/en/news/professor-thea-hilhorst-wins-prestigious-spinoza-prize) and Project lead new [CLIMARES project](https://www.climares.nl/).  *Expert in development in areas affected by disaster, conflict or fragility, with a special focus on aid-society relations: the impact of humanitarian aid on society and the ways in which people and institutions shape the organisation of aid relations.* |
| 14.15h | **Introducing workshop** Transdisciplinary project | **Prof.dr. Jacqueline Broerse**  From [Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam](https://vu.nl/en/about-vu/research-institutes/athena-institute) |
| 14.45-15.15 | Break and moving to break outs | |
| 15.15 – 17.15 | **Workshop on Transdisciplinary project design** | **Dr. Nora Engel and Dr. Dirk Essink** |
| 17.30h | **Plenary recollecting outcomes** | |
| 18.00h | **Drinks & Dinner with ample time for informal networking** | |

**16 May 2025**

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| **Time** | **What** | **Description** |
| 9.00h | **Plenary kick-off** Inspirational experienced research projects with impact examples | - [URBANE Project](https://urbane-project.eu/wp-urbane/): One health approaches to support agroecological transformation of peri-urban farming.  **- TBD** |
| 9.30h | **Workshop introductions** | |
|  | **The role of evidence and gap mapping (EGM) in assessing SDG progress** EGM as an instrument to standardize evidence for informed decision-making across diverse LMIC contexts. | **Prof. Ajay Bailey, Dr. Seama Mowri and Dr. Divya Patil** Geosciences Human Geography and Spatial Planning, International Development Studies, [Utrecht University](https://www.uu.nl/staff/ABailey) |
|  | **Citizen Engagement** |  |
|  | **Q sort survey on Interdisciplinary working**  Inter- and transdisciplinarity finds strong support in current academic settings, including in the GROW project. Aligning the ‘disciplinary’ and the ‘beyond-disciplinary’ in research is still debated. Together we will unravel these discussions and learn how to use the Q Sorting Method our self for our projects. | **Dr. Maurits Ertsen, Valeria Martinez Rodriquez**  [Water Management - TU Delft](https://www.tudelft.nl/en/ceg/about-faculty/departments/watermanagement/) |
| 10.00h | **Break** | |
| 10.30h | **4 parallel break-out workshop sessions** | |
| 12.30h | **Lunch** | |
| 13.30h | **Debate**: Cutbacks by USAID and others: blessing in disguise? | *Will the cutbacks allow the LMICs to take control of their own fate as was announced by some African Leaders recently?* |
| 14.15h | **GROW PhD Project pitches** | Selection of the 51 recently started MSCA Projects and their project approaches |
| 14.45 | **Closing remarks** | |
| 15.00h | **End** | |