

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



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COLOPHON

De Stichting ter bevordering van de Fossielvrij beweging,
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The financial statements of Fossielvrij NL have been prepared
by Van Tunen & Partners BV. These annual accounts with the
auditor's report are available at info@fossielvrij.nl.

Stichting Fossielvrij NL has the ANBI-status and meets
all the associated conditions. You can donate via:
doneren.fossielvrij.nl



Composition of the Board
Vatan Hüzeir, Chair
Layla Sawyer, Secretary
Joost Hartog, Treasurer
Zohra Moosa, General board member
Olivia Langhoff, General board member

Fossielvrij NL Team
Director: Liset Meddens
Campaigner: Hiske Arts
Communications coordinator: Marianna van der Stel
Organiser: Jesse van Duijl
Researcher: Leo van Kampenhout
Backoffice: Leonie Hosselet

Cover photo: Fossielvrij NL and Reclame Fossielvrij have just filed the writ for the KLM
lawsuit at the Amsterdam Court. Photo Laura Ponchel

Ontwerp: Karoline Świeżyński

Foreword by the Board

Welcome to the 2022 Fossielvrij NL annual report.

From a climate breakdown perspective, it was a worrying year. Russia's invasion of Ukraine not only resulted in immense suffering for the Ukrainians, but also contributed to energy poverty. Moreover, fossil fuel companies saw a chance to up gas dependencies across the globe. The war captivated public concern at the expense of the climate, which deteriorated further. At the same time, the current state of the global energy system became understood as a geopolitical concern. Amongst climate activists, the urgency to ensure that a future energy system must be a just one was felt stronger than before. Climate activism also developed in profound ways. The call for a fossil free future became yet more widespread and sounded noticeably louder. Both the easing of the corona restrictions as well as innovation taking place within climate activist circles have contributed to this. After playful actions by 'soup throwers', climate activists were finally invited to various talk shows for the first time.

Climate activism also became more pluriform in 2022. Whereas ten years ago, Fossielvrij was the only grassroots movement protesting the ties between knowledge institutions and the fossil fuel industry, this work resurged in 2022 through a new action group called End Fossil: Occupy!

These developments are also visible throughout our work. Read on to find inspiring examples of the impact of our activism, the innovation that characterises our work, and the simultaneous rollout of several new and very important strategic campaigns. From the successes of Reclame Fossielvrij and actions of Fossil Free Football, to the launch of the ING

Fossielvrij campaign and our greenwashing lawsuit against airline KLM with Reclame Fossielvrij: everything we engaged on in 2022 underscores that Fossielvrij NL possesses serious change making power.

Financially, we are in a much better shape than in 2021. We expanded the team to six people, having welcomed organiser Jesse van Duijl, backoffice manager Leonie Hosselet and researcher Leo van Kampenhout. With this talent on board, our much needed activism has been able to scale up. We are therefore extremely grateful to The Sunrise Project, 350.org, ClientEarth, Tides Foundation, Boomgaard Foundation, Grassroots Foundation and a growing number of individual donors for their invaluable contributions.

We continue to search diligently for ways to fund our struggle for climate justice. We know from experience that it will not be easy to break Big Oil's push for gas, or to stop ING Bank from funding the most climate-disruptive fossil fuel projects. But we do this because giving up is not an option. And that worries the bad guys. Shell, for example, referenced us several times. We are a threat to their survival. That is a good thing.

We will keep pressing for a fossil free future in 2023!

On behalf of the board,

Vatan Hüzeir, chair



National climate march in Rotterdam: stop fossil fuels, stop war, climate justice now! Photo: Marianna van der Stel

OUR MISSION

Fossielvrij NL (Fossil Free NL) tackles the climate crisis by organising a strong, community-based people’s movement that breaks the power of coal, oil and gas companies. Together we ensure that institutions – such as pension funds, banks and museums – cut their ties with fossil fuel companies. Additionally, we fight the greenwashing of big polluters, so they cannot get away with false claims about taking climate action. This way, the power of the fossil fuel industry crumbles. This creates space for a just transition to a decentralised energy system based on renewable resources.

Climate justice is central to our work. The pursuit of justice and equality forms the basis of our motivation to tackle the climate crisis. In other words, the climate crisis is not isolated and we cannot tackle it in isolation from other crises.

VISION

A world in ecological and social balance, rooted in justice and freed from the fossil fuel industry.

THEORY OF CHANGE

WE RUN CAMPAIGNS
each with a clear target and a separate strategy built around one of the pillars of support for the fossil fuel industry’s power.

WE MOBILISE
new people to take an increasingly active role. We do this through our campaigns, and specifically through public actions and storytelling.

WE ORGANISE
active people and make sure they are empowered and take on a role in the Fossielvrij network or the broader climate movement.

PEOPLE POWER

OUR GOAL
WE BREAK THE POWER OF THE FOSSIL FUEL INDUSTRY TO ACHIEVE CLIMATE JUSTICE

OUR CORE VALUES



COURAGE

From inner strength, we act according to our beliefs and change the dominant narrative.



CREATIVITY

We use our natural ability to create something new or innovative for climate action and positive change.



DETERMINATION

We continue to fight resiliently for our purpose, even when the pressure mounts and we face setbacks.



JUSTICE

We work hard to end the systemic injustices that have been inflicted on communities and ecosystems for centuries.

Timeline: 2022 at a glance



Photo: Laura Ponchel

Together with Reclame Fossielvrij and ClientEarth, Fossielvrij NL announces a lawsuit against KLM if the airline does not stop its misleading green marketing.



Photo: Denis Meyer

For its accountability body, pension fund ABP selects most of the 'green' candidates that ABP Fossielvrij campaigned for.



Photo: Laura Ponchel

After a 'KLM Trial Walk', we file the writ for the KLM lawsuit.



Photo: Fossil Free Football

The brand new initiative Fossil Free Football has its first action before a match between the Netherlands and Belgium.

100 people attend the first grassroots climate action conference on system change.

Reclame Fossielvrij (nr. 15) and Den Haag Fossielvrij (nr. 37) appear in the Trouw Duurzame 100, a prominent ranking of sustainable initiatives.



Photo: Laura Ponchel

Success for Reclame Fossielvrij: first Dutch province (Noord-Holland) enforces a ban on fossil fuel advertising.



Photo: Reclame Fossielvrij



FEBRUARY

- 8 public broadcasters call on their pension fund to stop investing in the fossil fuel industry, thanks to efforts of PNO Media Fossielvrij
- Action marathon for a fossil free PFZW pension fund by care and welfare professionals.



Photo: Fossielvrij NL

APRIL

More than 100 care and welfare professionals protest PFZW's decision to continue investing in fossil fuels.



Photo: Fossielvrij NL

With huge banners, ING Fossielvrij makes sure their message can't be ignored at ING's annual shareholders' meeting.



Photo: Laura Ponchel

JUNE

10,000 people join the Climate March in Rotterdam



Photo: Marianna van der Stel

LEGEND

- Fossielvrij NL
- Fossil free campaign group
- Combined

SEPTEMBER

The brand new initiative Fossil Free Football has its first action before a match between the Netherlands and Belgium.

100 people attend the first grassroots climate action conference on system change.

OCTOBER

Reclame Fossielvrij (nr. 15) and Den Haag Fossielvrij (nr. 37) appear in the Trouw Duurzame 100, a prominent ranking of sustainable initiatives.



Photo: Marianna van der Stel

NOVEMBER

ING Fossielvrij shares the stories of people that fight against ING-funded fossil fuel projects with lifesize photos.



Photo: Laura Ponchel

A documentary about ING's massive funding of American LNG infrastructure airs on national TV, thanks to a tip from ING Fossielvrij.

With a large coalition and over 1,000 people, we protest for air traffic degrowth at Schiphol.

Campaign focus: ING Bank

We launched a new landmark campaign, targeting the largest fossil fuel funder in the Netherlands – with people power.

WHAT HAPPENED IN 2022?

At the end of March, a strange object appeared in front of ING's headquarters in Amsterdam: a giant version of ING's iconic piggy bank for kids. The original lets children insert a coin and watch it roll into separate containers for cents, quarters or euros. This time, one could see how one's tax payments and membership contributions roll into oil barrels.

This was the launch of our new ING Fossielvrij campaign. ING Bank is a major financial player worldwide, the biggest Dutch financier of the fossil fuel industry and a cornerstone of Dutch identity – all in all a well suited target. By building people power, we believe we can change the bank's policies and shift large sums of money away from fossil fuels, and towards the climate solutions we so desperately need.

To reach our goal, we have employed several tactics: we engaged ING's corporate clients to increase the pressure, we researched where ING's money goes to show why their green image is unjustified, and shared the stories of people directly impacted by ING's fossil fuel projects. Moreover, we are building a movement and collaborating with others to close the net around ING. To that end, we are working closely with Milieudefensie, Extinction Rebellion NL, BankTrack, Eerlijke Geldwijzer and Dutch labour union FNV: organisations that each target ING Bank in their own way.

To increase pressure on ING from various angles, we used a crowdsource action to map which organisations and businesses are clients of ING. This was a fun and simple way to get

many people involved. Plenty of them also got involved in the next step: informing the corporate clients about ING's fossil funding, and asking them to express their concerns to ING, either privately or publicly. We used pressure from below by asking members of organisations (such as Natuurmonumenten, the largest nature conservancy organisation in the Netherlands) to address the same issue towards the top of the organisation. As a result, many of these clients had conversations with ING and a few also made public statements.

By hiring an organiser, we were able to set up the infrastructure to engage new people in our movement and enable them to take action. In our monthly online meet-ups, we invited a wide range of speakers to inform and inspire. Teams focused on research and communication conducted a series of online interviews with people in Mozambique, Australia and the US that fight against ING-financed fossil fuel projects in their vicinity. One of the stories revealed that ING is an important financier of LNG-terminals in the US. A tip of ours led to an investigative documentary by the Dutch programme Pointer, which aired on national TV.

We have actively shaped the public discussion on ING's climate policy, on social media as well as in multiple opinion pieces in Het Financieele Dagblad (the Dutch Financial Times). One of these op-eds has led to parliamentary questions. Furthermore, the campaign was covered by Trouw (national newspaper) and Kassa (TV-programme).



At the launch of the ING Fossielvrij campaign, euros roll into a giant piggy bank made of oil barrels. Photo: Laura Ponchel



Employees of ING Bank are welcomed by lifesize photos of James Hiatt, Sally Hunter and others fighting against ING-financed fossil fuel projects in their living area. Photo: Laura Ponchel



ING Fossielvrij hosts a workshop at the Midsummer Activism festival at cultural free haven Ruigoord. Photo: Richard Slakhorst



The iconic lions of ING greet shareholders at their annual meeting. Photo: Laura Ponchel

WHAT'S NEXT?

We will keep adding pressure via ING's clients, but also shareholders, employees and sponsor relations. Also, we will continue working together with people at the forefront of ING-financed fossil fuel projects. We will make sure their voices are heard during the next shareholders' meeting, around which we will organise an event in collaboration with our partner organisations.

Campaign focus: KLM

We filed the world's first ever lawsuit against airline greenwashing.

WHAT HAPPENED IN 2022?

On May 24th, we took the mic at KLM’s shareholders’ meeting in Paris. There, we told KLM that we would see them in court if they did not stop their misleading ‘green’ advertisements. And so we did. Together with Reclame Fossielvrij and with the support of ClientEarth, we filed a lawsuit against KLM for their misleading statements on sustainable aviation, such as (but not limited to) their ‘Fly Responsibly’ campaign and offsetting claims. Subsequently, we launched a website highlighting the case and a petition that people could sign to express their support – which has been signed by over 14,000 people (as of May 2023). The case is supported by Milieudefensie, Greenpeace NL, Grootouders voor het Klimaat and SchipholWatch.

As greenwashing is becoming an increasingly popular marketing strategy for companies, it is more important than ever to unmask this deceptive practice. Especially when it is done by an airline, as they use green marketing to uphold their licence to grow. Just like financial institutions, airlines are an important pillar of support for the fossil fuel industry; they are large scale consumers of kerosine, they lobby against climate measures and create false expectations about sustainable flying that stand in the way of citizen action and stricter legislation.

By suing KLM, we are standing up against airline greenwashing and are creating a national and international movement. We want to enforce the law against misleading advertising and get the true story about aviation’s climate impact across to the largest audience possible, to stop the aviation industry trying to distract and subvert political and societal support for the degrowth of the aviation industry. By exposing misleading and harmful fossil fuel advertising, the case also shows why a ban on all fossil fuel advertisements is needed.

Looking at the (inter)national media coverage of the lawsuit (in almost all Dutch newspapers, the primary Dutch television news programme NOS Journaal, Dutch radio programmes, BBC and BBC radio, Reuters, Bloomberg, Washington Post, The Independent and ABC News), it is safe to say that our story of KLM’s greenwashing is being heard. On a political level, the state agent for KLM wrote in his report that the airline needs to prepare for “a scenario of multi-year zero growth or contraction of the number of flight movements at Schiphol” due to “social developments” including lawsuits such as ours, which aims to stop KLM upholding its ‘licence to grow’ through misleading advertising.

Additionally, we have shared our story about the KLM court case, greenwashing and the need for degrowth of aviation at numerous events. We have conveyed our message to hundreds of people during key note talks at a B-corps event, a Triodos Bank employee event, a Solar Butterfly event, a large demonstration for aviation degrowth at Schiphol (which was a fruitful collaboration with several organisations) and a conference of the Stay Grounded network in Lille, where we also gave a workshop on (legal) remedies against greenwashing and connected with other European activists. Additionally, we joined the European Citizens Initiative to demand a new EU law that prohibits fossil fuel advertisements and sponsorships. We held a presentation about the KLM-case for this coalition.

Last but not least, we gave a speech at the sustainable award ceremony of Dutch newspaper Trouw, since the ABP Fossielvrij campaign had won the previous year. During this speech, we called for Trouw to stop publishing fossil fuel related advertisements such as those promoting cheap flights.



During the ‘KLM trial walk’, we brought the writ to the Amsterdam court. Photo: Laura Ponchel



Together with Reclame Fossielvrij, we traveled to Paris to announce the lawsuit. Photo: Denis Meyer



During the annual shareholders’ meeting of KLM, we announced that we would take the airline to court if they would not stop their misleading ‘green’ communication. Photo: Laura Ponchel

WHAT’S NEXT?

After several conversations with KLM, we have seen no substantial progress. Therefore, we will follow through with the court case, the first hearing of which will take place in 2023. We will continue to make sure our message remains at the forefront of public debate. Also, we will take the initiative to create a toolkit that supports citizens to file complaints at advertising watchdogs against (airline) greenwashing, first in the Netherlands and later internationally.

Fossil free pension funds

After our ABP Fossielvrij win, we keep a close eye on pension giants ABP and PFZW - and together with the movement, we add pressure for true divestment.

While targeting ING Bank, we have also kept a close eye on our previous finance targets ABP (the largest Dutch pension fund, for all teachers and civil servants) and PFZW (the second largest pension fund, for the welfare and care sector). We did this in close cooperation with campaign group Groen Pensioen. In particular, our focus was on the use of shareholder engagement and voting behaviour, on whether ABP would follow-up on its divestment commitments, and on whether PFZW would introduce exclusion criteria for fossil fuel companies that are not aligned with the Paris Agreement. PFZW has indeed announced that from 2024 onwards they will solely invest in companies with a "convincing and verifiable" energy transition aligned with 'Paris'. However, we are not assured that this will be sufficient. That is why we have

organised a demonstration with a broad and strong coalition – including health care professionals – that we have built together with Groen Pensioen. In addition, we remain in conversation with PFZW.

On the subject of shareholder power: we have stimulated pension funds to invest in shareholder engagements with banks. Also, we have investigated how ABP and PFZW voted on climate resolutions and we have addressed this directly to our contacts. As a result, ABP has sharpened their voting policy in April 2023. Another success with ABP was the selection of five 'green' candidates for their accountability body, which we had promoted on our website and email list.



Together with pension members of PFZW and partners such as Groen Pensioen and Extinction Rebellion, we took the streets on Earth Day. Photo: Marianna van der Stel



At the climate march in Rotterdam, health care professionals emphasise that the climate crisis is a health crisis. Photo: Marianna van der Stel



10.000 people demand climate justice at the national climate march in Rotterdam. Photo: Marianna van der Stel



Earth Day. Photo: Marianna van der Stel

The Fossilvrij Movement



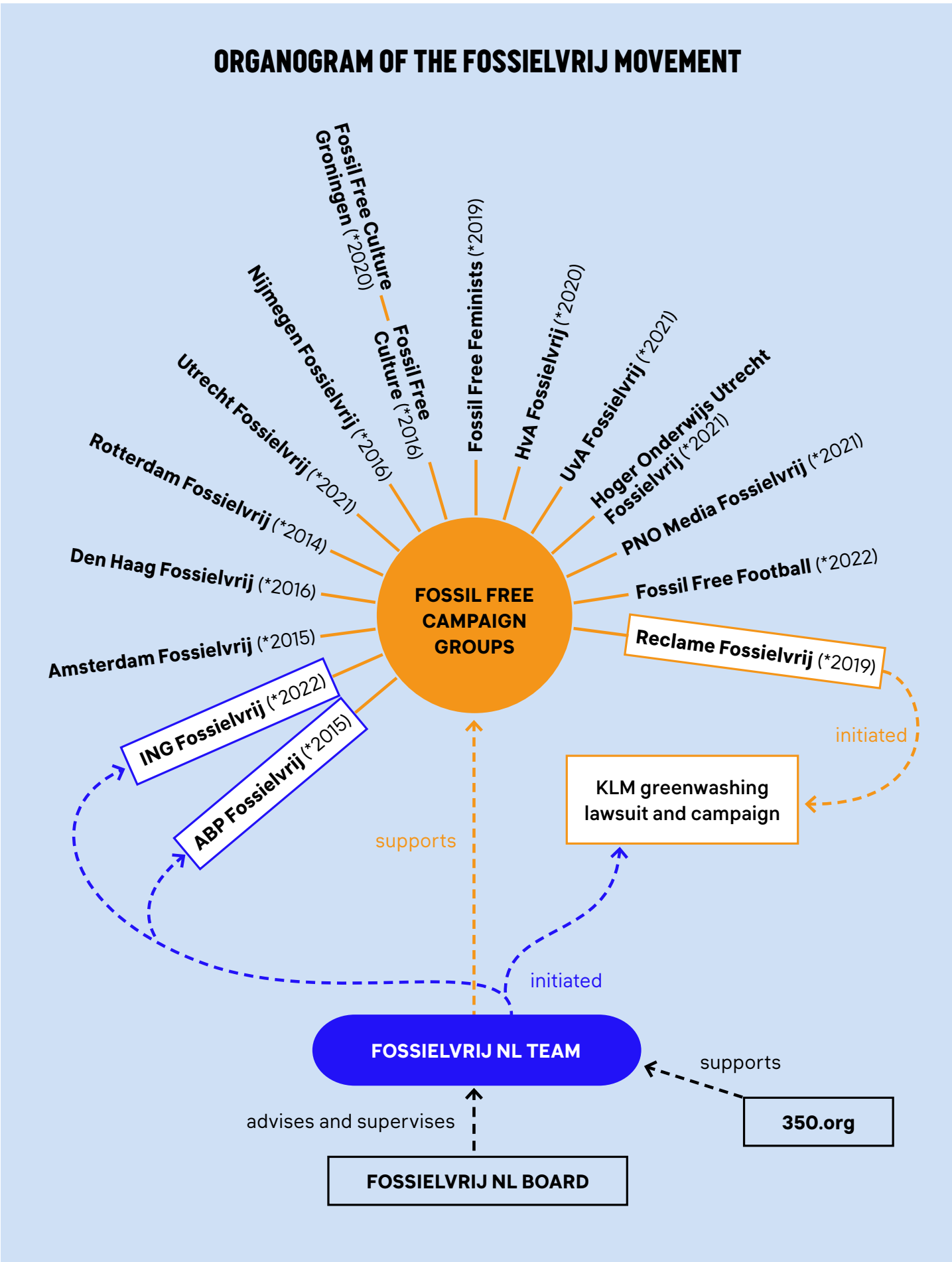
Photo: Laura Ponchel



Photo: Marianna van der Stel



Photo: Marianna van der Stel



SPOTLIGHT ON RECLAME FOSSIELVRIJ

Interview with Rosanne Rootert, campaigner at Reclame Fossilvrij

You have made an interesting career switch: from criminal law clerk to fulltime climate activist. How come?

I have always loved animals and nature. Over the past years I have adopted a more sustainable lifestyle as a reaction to bad news about nature and the climate. Also, the story about the Ogoni Nine (nine Nigerian activists that were hanged in 1995 for their resistance against Shell in Nigeria's Ogoni region) hit me hard: I came to realise how far Shell goes in violating human rights. When the Covid pandemic hit, it felt like there was momentum for a more just and green society, but this faded and our government even gave lots of financial support to polluting companies like KLM. That is when I started to feel a sense of urgency and realised that only changing my own lifestyle was not enough.

I contacted Femke Slegers, the coordinator of Reclame Fossilvrij, and told her I wanted to do the same as she did: spend a year working unpaid for the climate. At Reclame Fossilvrij. That's how we started working together.

Do you feel that you make impact at Reclame Fossilvrij?

Absolutely. We have been working hard to realise a ban on fossil fuel advertising. Now we see motions and written questions in parliament, and many local bans. A great and impactful moment in 2022 was travelling with Fossilvrij NL to KLM's shareholders meeting in Paris, to announce the court case about KLM's misleading advertising. If we win, this court case can set a very important precedent for greenwashing cases worldwide.

So what is it like to take part in a court case?

It is super interesting, and also weird in a good way to see the process from a different angle, because I used to work at a court. I never seriously realised how much work and time goes into the research and writing before even filing a case. This has also made me think about the inequality within legal systems. Big polluters like Shell and KLM have so many people, even in-house lawyers, and so much money. Their access to court is also easier than it is for a social organisation or the average citizen. Our legal system does not make it easy to defend human rights and the climate – and that's considering that we have one of the best worldwide.

What is an important lesson that you have learned about defending the climate so far?

That everything you do matters. Do not feel guilty if you do not devote your career to this or if you are not at a protest every weekend. Everything, like for example speaking up at work about what could be done differently, is important. All these little things together make us big: the Fossilvrij movement and the climate movement as a whole.



Rosanne carries the writ in a KLM suitcase to the court of Amsterdam. Photo: Laura Ponchel

WHAT HAPPENED IN 2022?

The independent campaign group Reclame Fossilvrij is campaigning for a national law that bans fossil fuel advertising. Next to this, in 2022, they focused on motivating cities to be frontrunners, involving the health care movement in their campaign, creating an international snowball effect and exposing and problematising misleading fossil fuel ads, for example with the court case together with Fossilvrij NL against airline KLM's misleading ads.

In 2022 Reclame Fossilvrij celebrated multiple local successes; after Amsterdam became the world's first city to ban fossil fuel ads, several other municipalities are taking the lead in banning ads that are wrecking the climate. The province of Noord-Holland and the cities of Amersfoort and Nijmegen introduced a ban on fossil fuel ads, bringing the total in 2022 to 10 government bodies. A ban was also discussed multiple times in the Dutch Parliament.

Another success was the win against Shell at the Dutch advertising watchdog: after 'CO₂-neutral', also the term 'CO₂ compensation' is now deemed misleading.

Reclame Fossilvrij organised several creative actions. Thanks to one of them, the prominent sustainability event Springtij dropped Element NL (Dutch gas industry) as a sponsor.

At COP 27, Reclame Fossilvrij held a speech in the pavilion of the World Health Organisation (WHO). In reaction to this speech, Maria Neira, WHO-director of Planetary Health, publicly declared her support for a fossil fuel ad ban. In 2021, Greenpeace launched the European Citizens Initiative (ECI) that was inspired by Reclame Fossilvrij's campaign, to demand a new EU law that prohibits fossil fuel advertisements and sponsorships. In 2022, Reclame Fossilvrij organised an action week in several cities in support of the ECI. When the initiative was closed in October, the campaign had raised more than 30,000 signatures in the Netherlands alone.



Reclame Fossilvrij in front of the prime minister's office, with signs comparing deaths from smoking to deaths from fossil fuel emissions. When will fossil fuel advertising be banned, just like we did with tobacco? Photo: Reclame Fossilvrij

WHAT'S NEXT?

Reclame Fossilvrij will scale up the efforts for a law that bans fossil fuel ads in the Netherlands. They will also take the lead in the follow up to the European campaign to ban fossil fuel ads in the EU.

They will intensify their efforts to scale the movement with knowledge sharing and inspiration. For this, they will launch the website worldwithoutfossilads.org, showcasing all initiatives worldwide that are campaigning for the banning of fossil fuel ads. Also they will host an international seminar on the topic.

SPOTLIGHT ON FOSSIL FREE FOOTBALL

Interview with Frank Huisingh,
founder of Fossil Free Football



To criticise an unnecessary flight by the Dutch national men's team, Frank cycled all over Paris to hand them a symbolic train ticket. Photo: Fossil Free Football

You launched Fossil Free Football this year. What made you decide to start this initiative?

Besides a more general feeling of worrying about the climate crisis, I remember a specific walk through the woods. I was listening to an audiobook by climate scientist Katherine Heyhoe. She described how someone wanted to raise awareness about the climate crisis in the evangelical church, but got nowhere. 'Well', she asked, 'are you religious yourself?' The answer was no. This triggered me: you can make the most impact in places you know best. I love football, so why not focus on that?

And why the form of a Fossil Free group?

I like how clear-cut the message 'fossil free football' is, as opposed to 'sustainable' or 'green' football. Besides, as a civil servant in foreign affairs, I was already involved in the campaign for a fossil free ABP pension fund. So I contacted Fossielvrij NL director Liset: I have this weird plan, do you have any advice? She immediately started brainstorming with me and invited me to be part of the Fossil Free Movement. I could use the office if needed. Even though I started by myself, I felt included in a group.

What was your first action like?

Exciting! During the Netherlands - Belgium match in the Johan Cruijff Arena in September we wanted to address the dirty sponsorship of the KNVB by fossil fuel funder ING. We had all kinds of wild ideas about people in lion suits carrying placards. But the four of us ended up having our picture taken outside with a banner, which we were not allowed to take inside. But this was perfectly fine, because we were featured in the Dutch football magazines Voetbalzone and Voetbal International, amongst others.

It turns out it is quite easy to generate attention with a football related social message, as this is still quite rare. There is a lot of momentum, as all organisations know they have to do 'something with climate' and in football there is still room in the public debate to offer concrete ideas. Like, in our case: cut ties with dirty sponsors like ING, and reschedule football matches so that air traffic is reduced.

What does Fossil Free Football bring you on a personal level?

Let me use a bad football metaphor: I no longer stand on the sidelines feeling frustrated, but I am in the game. Being actively involved soothes those climate fears a bit. Also, it is great fun. When I succeed in generating attention, or when people join in - there are thirteen of us now. The feeling of being on the right side together, working towards something, is very motivating.



WHAT HAPPENED IN 2022?

The focus of Fossil Free Football was on starting and growing the movement. The first actions attracted quite some attention from the media and on social media. One of the highlights was taking FIFA to the advertising authority for falsely claiming the Qatar World Cup is carbon neutral.



First action of Fossil Free Football before a match between the Netherlands and Belgium. Photo: Fossil Free Football

WHAT'S NEXT?

Fossil Free Football will keep the pressure up on the Dutch Football association KNVB, and continue campaigning on their links to ING Bank as part of the ING Fossil Free campaign. The focus will remain on the big football associations and clubs: they need to break ties with big polluters and reorganise football.

We can only tackle the climate crisis if we do it together. We are happy to be part of a growing (inter) national movement, in which we play a connecting and supporting role.

10.000 PEOPLE MARCH
FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE IN ROTTERDAM

“Stop fossil fuels, stop war, climate justice now” were the words on the front banner of the climate march of June 19th in Rotterdam. With the “Climate Crisis Coalition” – a collaboration of ten climate justice organisations and groups –, we organised a large climate mobilisation five months after the war in Ukraine started. Around 10.000 people gathered in the centre of Rotterdam to make a clear statement against the interests of the fossil fuel industry.

We are proud that we build bridges, trust and relationships between these organisations and groups in the climate justice movement. We play a key role, since we are centrally positioned between the established environmental NGOs like Milieudefensie and Greenpeace and the grassroots climate groups like Extinction Rebellion and Fridays for Future.



The climate march in Rotterdam united a wide range of groups working on climate justice, headed by the decolonial anti-racist block. Photo: Marianna van der Stel

ACTION CONFERENCE:
NEW FOUNDATIONS FOR GRASSROOTS
COLLABORATION

Together with Internationale Socialisten, Extinction Rebellion, Fridays for Future and TNI, we organised an action conference in September. The goal was to increase grassroots influence on the agenda of the broader climate movement. Proposals for collective actions were drawn up around themes like energy poverty, the airline industry and solidarity with workers on strike. We laid foundations for grassroots collaboration; we will definitely organise this again.

CONTINUED PARTNERSHIP WITH 350.ORG

We work closely with our international partner 350.org on our strategy, our digital communications and collaboration in the larger European movement for climate justice. In 2022, we both focussed on breaking the ties between financial institutions and the fossil fuel industry. 350.org targeted the European Central Bank, Deutsche Bank, the Bank of England and the financing of the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP). In the Netherlands we focused on the fossil fuel finance of ING bank. By sharing lessons learned, we have been able to strengthen each other’s work. In October, two of our team members joined a gathering of the 350 Europe team in Italy, further strengthening our ties.

RAISING THE PRESSURE ON
THE POLLUTING AIRLINE INDUSTRY

2022 was a year of rising pressure on the airline industry – an industry that is heavily dependent on fossil fuels. Besides our lawsuit against KLM’s misleading marketing, a lot happened. In May and November, the climate movement and local residents – who suffer from noise and air pollution – came together to organise two demonstrations at Schiphol airport for air traffic degrowth. Accompanying the second demonstration, Extinction Rebellion and Greenpeace staged a mass blockade of private jets, demanding fewer flights, more trains and a ban on unnecessary short-haul flights and private jets. All in all, the injustice of flying is becoming more apparent, and support for air traffic degrowth is rising.

In addition, we have become a member of Stay Grounded: an international network of organisations fighting greenwashing and promoting alternatives to aviation to address climate change.



Protesters took their own take on the signage of Schiphol Airport at a demonstration for air traffic degrowth. Photo: Marianna van der Stel

FUNDRAISING

Since 2021, we have focused on diversifying our fund base and increasing our online fundraising. This has paid off in 2022: we have increased the number of funds, some of which actively approached us. The income stream generated from online fundraising is also still increasing, as is the number of individual donors who are happy to support our work with both smaller and larger donations. This resulted in a larger budget for 2022 than we originally planned for. At the start of 2022, the board approved an increased total budget of €271.500, instead of the initial €209.000.

We successfully organised a crowdfunding in November 2022, this time specifically for our ING Fossielvrij campaign. Our target was €15.000, but we ended up raising €17.195, which shows the strong support for this campaign and our work. This amount was reserved to be spent in 2023 on our ING campaign.

We were able to close the year with a positive result and therefore we could further develop our structural reserve. We will keep on developing this reserve to increase our financial resilience in the future.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

| | 31-12-2022 | | 31-12-2021 | |
|--|------------|---------|------------|---------|
| | € | € | € | € |
| ASSETS | | | | |
| FIXED ASSETS | | | | |
| Inventory | | | | |
| Inventory | | 532 | | 836 |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | | |
| Receivables | | | | |
| Trade receivables | - | | 50 | |
| Other receivables and accrued assets | 11.294 | | 20.172 | |
| | | 11.294 | | 20.222 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | | | | |
| Other banks | | 208.762 | | 160.425 |
| | | 220.588 | | 181.483 |
| EQUITY AND LIABILITIES | | | | |
| NET ASSETS | | | | |
| General reserve | | 78.257 | | 48.401 |
| SHORT-TERM LIABILITIES | | | | |
| Trade payables | 6.772 | | 20.420 | |
| Payables relating to taxes and social security contributions | 6.382 | | 3.399 | |
| Other liabilities and accrued expenses | 129.177 | | 109.263 | |
| | | 142.331 | | 133.082 |
| | | 220.588 | | 181.483 |

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR 2022

| | 2022 | Budget 2022 | 2021 |
|--------------------------------------|---------|----------------|---------|
| | € | € | € |
| Benefits | | | |
| Grants and benefits from fundraising | 211.582 | 131.000 | 203.084 |
| College, course and tuition fees | - | - | 2.681 |
| Donations | 66.594 | 78.000 | 85.895 |
| | 278.176 | 209.000 | 291.660 |
| Expenses | | | |
| Expenses of employee benefits | 106.245 | 159.745 | 161.761 |
| Depreciation of inventory | 304 | - | 393 |
| Other operating expenses | 141.771 | 38.255 | 113.120 |
| Total of sum of expenses | 248.320 | 198.000 | 275.274 |
| Total of net result | 29.856 | 11.000 | 16.386 |
| Appropriation of result | | | |
| General reserve | 29.856 | | 16.386 |

