

# Waterproof 2024: FieldFactors wins the Partners for Water Award!

**Utrecht, 6 February 2024 - Today, the Partners for Water Award was proudly presented to FieldFactors at the Waterproof 2024 event. This award is reserved for successful projects funded by Partners for Water, showcasing innovative solutions that enhance water security abroad. FieldFactors stands out for its proven viability and potential for international upscaling. Discover more about the company's pioneering project below.**

Over 324 national and international professionals from the water sector cast their votes for one of the three nominees in the past month. Besides FieldFactors, those were Nelen & Schuurmans and Royal HaskoningDHV. The award ceremony was one of the highlights of Waterproof 2024. This biennial event is organised by Partners for Water, an international water programme funded by the Dutch government.

## **Winner of the Partners for Water Award 2024**

Liliane Geerlin, programme coordinator of Partners for Water: "The Partners for Water team congratulates FieldFactors as this year's winner of the Partners for Water Award 2024. The company's innovative project BlueBloqs is changing the way we manage rainwater in urban areas. BlueBloqs naturally harnesses every raindrop, preventing sewer overflow. FieldFactors has successfully tested this in the Spanish city of Valladolid with the support of a subsidy from Partners for Water."

The subsidy project paved the way for similar applications in other parts of the world. In the Netherlands, BlueBloqs is also being used, for example, at the stadium of the Rotterdam football club Sparta.

Kieran Dartée from FieldFactors: "I am very proud that we won the Partners for Water Award today. The project was an important first step for us in Spain in implementing an initial water and climate solution to improve water security there. Hopefully, we will look back on this starting point in four years with many new projects that we can realise to accelerate the transition towards a climate-adaptive world."

## **A subsidy as a catalyst for sustainable water management**

All three nominees received funding from Partners for Water (PVW-IVWW) between 2017 and 2022. As pioneers in their respective fields, they have made a significant contribution to sustainable water management abroad. Each project highlighted the importance of practical and effective solutions and the necessity of equal collaboration between local stakeholders and the Dutch water sector. For more information about the nominated projects, click [here](#).

**Apply for the new subsidy round**

The next tender for the Partners for Water subsidy programme will open in July 2024. Interested parties can now register for the mandatory intake interview. Apply or read more about it [here](#).

### **About Partners for Water**

Partners for Water is a Dutch government programme that has been addressing international water issues for over 20 years. The programme does this through long-term collaboration with local partners and the Dutch water sector. Partners for Water encourages knowledge sharing, innovations and an integrated approach. In this way, the programme creates impact in the area of water security for people, plants and animals. Partners for Water is carried out by the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO) on behalf of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy and the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality.

### **About Waterproof**

Waterproof is a biennial networking event aimed at Dutch professionals involved in international water management and climate adaptation. During the event, knowledge in fields such as delta planning, social inclusion, innovations for water security, natural solutions and biodiversity is exchanged. The prerequisites for accelerating and enhancing sustainable international water management are also explored.

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Event website: <https://www.partnersvoorwater.nl/events/waterproof-2024/>