

## Scientific Director Delta Climate Center

"Do you want to join the business director of a new innovative knowledge center in taking responsibility for the content of research and education projects that generate social and economic impact? Do you also live in Zeeland or have you always wanted to live there? Then we would love to meet with you for the role of scientific director."

### About the Delta Climate Center

On July 1, 2023, the Delta Climate Center (DCC) will be established as a new and innovative knowledge center in the field of climate adaptation. The DCC's mission is to develop and connect knowledge about Zeeland's delta to answer societal challenges around the transitions to a sustainable, climate-resilient and prosperous delta with a focus on water, energy and food. This takes shape through broad private-public cooperation in research, education and business development. The DCC aims to help realize innovative and impactful solutions for a future-proof delta. The institute is being established by six knowledge institutions, namely Utrecht University, Wageningen University, HZ/University of Applied Sciences, Scalda, University College Roosevelt and NIOZ.

The DCC will be funded over the next 10 years by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science and the Province of Zeeland and has a budget of 88 million euros (excluding co-financing and in-kind contributions). This budget is used to subsidize activities in the areas of research, education and generating social and economic impact, in the context of the foundation's mission and goals. In doing so, the DCC is primarily a booster and connector of activities.

The knowledge program focuses on regional transitions toward a sustainable, climate-resistant and prosperous delta. Three themes are central to this: 1) water and coast, 2) food, energy and bio-resources, and 3) a circular approach to water, energy and bio-resources. The approach is transdisciplinary - from an alpha, STEM and gamma perspective.

A complementary educational agenda called Sustainable Delta Transitions provides Zeeland with a wide range of educational forms in a continuous learning line from mbo-hbo-wo and will strengthen the labor market around climate transitions, attracting and retaining young people to and for Zeeland. The DCC also encourages business development and startups in the areas of water, food and energy. Co-creation with businesses, organizations and governments is part of the DCC's regular working method.

The DCC strengthens Vlissingen, Zeeland and the world. Its location is the Kenniswerf Vlissingen, from where the center is managed, where the office is located and where colleagues form knowledge groups and work together. In addition, the entire Zeeland delta is the center's living lab and field of activity.

The management is formed by a scientific director and a business director. The management is accountable to the Board of Directors, which consists of representatives from each of the 6 founding institutions under the leadership of an independent chairman. The DCC also has an advisory board with members from business, society and knowledge institutions. Funding is guaranteed for 10 years. Inclusiveness and diversity are core values of the DCC. For more information see: [Green light for Delta Climate Center in Vlissingen - News - Utrecht University \(uu.nl\)](#)



### **The position**

As scientific director you form the management of the institute together with the business director. You are the figurehead of the DCC and responsible for the content of research and education projects and activities related to generating economic and social impact. In the coming years, you will expand the DCC, enter into partnerships and give the DCC a structural place in the regional and (inter)national knowledge landscape. Together with the business director, you will report to the Board of Directors in which the six knowledge institutions are represented. Connecting qualities are essential for effective fulfillment of this position.

### **What will you do?**

- As scientific director you translate the substantive principles and frameworks related to research, education and impact into an implementation strategy and annual plans.
- You organize, direct and maintain an extensive and functional network within and outside Zeeland.
- You connect a wide variety of stakeholders to the DCC from the different forms and levels of education and research and represent the institute at home and abroad.
- You connect partners from knowledge institutions, companies and organizations to the DCC.
- You ensure additional funding for the knowledge agenda of the DCC.
- You have experience in making work processes, people, organizations and collaborations function effectively.
- You ensure proper and timely communication and information to the Board of Directors.
- Together with the business director, you lead the DCC office (where employees are employed by the participating organizations).
- You ensure a good alignment of interests and good cooperation between the parties involved in education, research and business development.
- You develop a strategy for further perpetuation of the DCC in the long term.
- You develop a communication strategy for the national and international profiling of the DCC.

### **What do you bring**

- You have a PhD in a topic closely related to the profile of the DCC, but know how to represent the interests of the whole.
- You have a high-quality track record as a University Senior Lecturer (UHD) or professor.
- You are familiar with and involved in national and international developments in climate change, delta management and the water-energy-food nexus.
- You have a heart for both education and research and find it challenging to initiate and realize innovations in both areas.
- You have an eye for and a vision on the importance of practical and scientific education and research for the structural strengthening of Zeeland.
- You have significant and relevant experience in shaping and managing large research and education programs in an administratively complex environment.
- You have significant leadership experience.
- You have a demonstrable interest in and affinity with practice-oriented MBO and HBO education and research.
- You know the importance of stakeholder management, you know how to apply this excellently and you are able to act as a connector of different interests and perspectives.



- You have experience in generating economic and social impact from research and know how to apply successful strategies in that regard.
- You are entrepreneurial, results-oriented, proactive and decisive and have the ability to develop new ideas into concrete projects.
- You are familiar with and involved in developments in the province of Zeeland and are able to find your way in the network of relevant parties.
- You have a good command of the Dutch and English languages.
- You live in Zeeland or are willing to relocate.

### **Our offer**

You will work for the DCC and for the six founders of the center. You will be assigned to Utrecht University or Wageningen University & Research and from there seconded to the DCC office in Vlissingen. We offer full-time employment, with you fulfilling the role of scientific director of the DCC for 0.8 FTE for the first few years. It is expected that this role can be reduced thereafter, which will also allow plenty of room for further development as a UHD or professor. The salary - depending on education and experience - amounts to a minimum of € 6,794 and a maximum of € 8,881 gross per month (scale 16 of the Collective Labor Agreement of Dutch Universities) for full-time employment (38 hours). You will also receive 8% vacation allowance and 8.3% end-of-year bonus.

For candidates not from Utrecht University or Wageningen University & Research, we initially offer a one-year contract. We have the intention to convert the employment contract to an indefinite contract if it functions well.

### **Want more information?**

DCC is being supported by search agency Vanderkruijs in this procedure. Interested candidates can express their interest by sending a cover letter (including an up-to-date CV) to [vdk@vanderkruijs.com](mailto:vdk@vanderkruijs.com).

For more information about this position, please contact Michèle Polspoel, partner in executive search, at 020-7267272 or [vdk@vanderkruijs.com](mailto:vdk@vanderkruijs.com).

The first job interviews will take place on Tuesday, May 30, 2023 in Vlissingen.

