



NBRACER
Nature Based Solutions
for Atlantic Regional Climate Resilience

NBRACER Immersive Visit in Fryslân Highlights Nature-Based Pathways for Climate Resilience



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On April 22–23, 2026, partners of the European project NBRACER gathered in Leeuwarden (Fryslân, the Netherlands) for a two-day immersive visit dedicated to advancing Nature-based Solutions (NbS) and strengthening climate resilience across diverse landscapes.

The event brought together a wide range of regional and European stakeholders, including public authorities, research institutions, and implementation partners, fostering cross-sector collaboration and knowledge exchange.



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From Knowledge to Action: A Collaborative First Day

Hosted at the Nieuwe Kancelarij in Leeuwarden, the first day focused on knowledge sharing and interactive learning.

Participants explored ongoing European and regional initiatives such as:

- The EU project ReAdapt
- Urban NbS initiatives in the Netherlands
- Groundwater modelling on the Frisian island of Terschelling
- Data-driven climate adaptation tools and methodologies

A central component of the day was a series of interactive workshops, where participants:

- Identified key regional climate challenges and visions
- Mapped opportunities for NbS across urban, coastal, and peatland landscapes
- Shared practical experiences and tools, including data-driven approaches such as potential mapping



These sessions emphasized the importance of combining scientific insights with local knowledge to design effective and context-specific solutions.



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Scaling and Embedding NbS in Policy and Practice

The second day deepened the discussion, focusing on peer learning and strategic alignment.

Participants were introduced to several key initiatives that are ongoing in Fryslân, including:

- NL2120 ([NL2120 - Elevating Nature-based Solutions](#))
- SMARTER ([SMARTER](#))
- EuropaPact ([Jouw kennispartner in Europese projecten - EuropaPact Fryslân](#))
- SOILCRATES

These projects showcased pathways for scaling NbS and integrating them into long-term policy frameworks.

A dedicated workshop on transformative capacity explored how to:

- Embed NbS into governance structures
- Strengthen decision-making processes
- Move from pilot projects to systemic implementation



The discussions highlighted that achieving climate resilience requires not only technical solutions, but also institutional change, collaboration, and shared ownership.



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Experiencing NbS in the Field: Coastal Dynamics in Action

The immersive visit concluded with a field excursion to Noard-Fryslân Bûtendyks, a unique coastal landscape shaped by natural dynamics and human intervention.

Guided by the regional nature organisation *It Fryske Gea*, participants gained first-hand insight into:

- The role of salt marshes (kwelders) in coastal protection
- Nature-based approaches to water management
- The interaction between ecological processes and climate adaptation

The visit also included key sites such as the Kweldercentrum (Salt Marsh Centre) and the Terp van de Toekomst (Mound of the Future), illustrating innovative ways of living with water and rising sea levels.

A Shared Thread: Community and Co-Creation

A key takeaway from the Fryslân visit was the concept of “mienskip”, the Frisian notion of community and collective responsibility.

Throughout the two days, participants emphasized that successful NbS implementation depends on:

- Integrating data-driven tools with local knowledge
- Fostering community engagement and ownership
- Building bridges between science, policy, and practice

Looking Ahead

The Fryslân immersive visit reinforced the importance of collaborative, place-based approaches in tackling climate challenges.

By combining innovative data tools, on-the-ground experience, and strong community values, the region offers valuable insights into how Europe can accelerate the transition towards climate-resilient landscapes.

As NBRACER continues, these exchanges will remain essential in scaling solutions and turning ambition into action.

For more information and to stay up to date on NBRACER's progress, visit [NBRACER.EU](https://nbracer.eu).

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