



To explore  
the potential of  
coastal and  
marine nature  
to improve  
the quality of life

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Week calendar 2018



WAGENINGEN  
UNIVERSITY & RESEARCH



100years  
1918 — 2018

Cover photo Christiaan de Leeuw

As 2018 only has 52 weeks, we unfortunately could only include a selection of all the interesting work and photos sent to us by our Wageningen University & Research (WUR) colleagues. More information about the 'study of the week' plus some of the not included work can be found via the calendar website below.

Tinka Murk (editor) and Pepijn de Vries (assistant editor)



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UNIVERSITY & RESEARCH



[www.wur.eu/marinecalendar2018](http://www.wur.eu/marinecalendar2018)

# Foreword

The European commission has developed a long term strategy, called Blue Growth, to support sustainable growth in the marine and maritime sectors. Seas and oceans are promoted as drivers for innovation and growth of the European economy. The current 'blue' economy roughly represents 5.4 million jobs and generates a gross added value of almost 500 billion Euros a year. Further growth is going to be stimulated in 5 areas: aquaculture, coastal tourism, marine biotechnology, ocean energy, and seabed mining. Of course it is great to make use of a 'sea of opportunities'. The seas, however, already are quite intensively used, and for further sustainable and inclusive use better care should be taken of the health, resilience and biodiversity of the marine ecosystems.

As the world is expected to have almost 10 billion inhabitants in 2050, a huge challenge lies ahead of us: how to feed this population without degrading the environments that provide the resources for food production. Using marine resources for the benefit of society in a responsible way requires innovative approaches that smartly integrates technical, environmental and socio-economic knowledge.

Such transdisciplinary approaches are a major strength of Wageningen University & Research (WUR). Together we cover expertise from fisheries ecology to adaptive governance of sea level rise; from aquaculture to sustainable tourism; in temperate, Arctic and Tropical areas. In 2012 the innovation program TripleP@Sea was initiated. This program, led by prof. Tinka Murk, clearly demonstrates how transdisciplinary collaboration forms the basis for new discoveries and innovations, creating successful research, education and societal and economic value.

This calendar illustrates the versatility and beauty of the work of many, but certainly not all, Wageningen University & Research colleagues, exploring the potential of coastal and marine nature to improve the quality of life.

Enjoy!

Prof.dr Arthur Mol  
Rector Magnificus/vice-president Wageningen University & Research



Wouter Jan Strietman



Scientists from WUR trace sources of marine plastic litter in the Arctic and support stakeholders in developing action plans to prevent marine plastic pollution.

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# January

week  
**1**  
2018





Pauline Jéhannet



100years

Scientists from WUR share experiences and collaborate in the International Eel Reproduction Innovation Centre in an effort to close the eel life cycle in aquaculture.

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# January

week  
2

2018





Putu Liza Kusuma Mustika



100years

Habitat use and migration routes of spinner dolphins and other cetaceans are studied to improve marine mammal protection in marine spatial planning, in this case in Wakatobi - Indonesia.

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## January

week

3

2018





Hugo Schuitemaker



100years

By collaborating with fishermen, WUR scientists can obtain a wealth of data as well as important insights on fishers' decision making.

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## January

week  
4

2018





Steve Geelhoed



100years

Flamingos avoided a salt lake after a petrochemical fire. WUR examines the risks posed to the birds as they return to the polluted lake.

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## January | February

week

5

2018





Ben Griffioen



100years

Scientist of WUR study the effectiveness for eel of the upcoming Fish Migration River in the Afsluitdijk.

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## February

week

6

2018





Jillian Student



WUR uses participatory approaches and simulations to improve understanding of emerging ecological and social vulnerabilities in the coastal tourism sector.

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# February

week  
7  
2018





Wetsus



100years

On the Afsluitdijk, separating the large fresh water Lake IJssel from the North Sea, the world's first salinity gradient power plant will capture renewable energy based on technology from WUR scientists.

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## February

week  
8

2018





Ewout Knoester



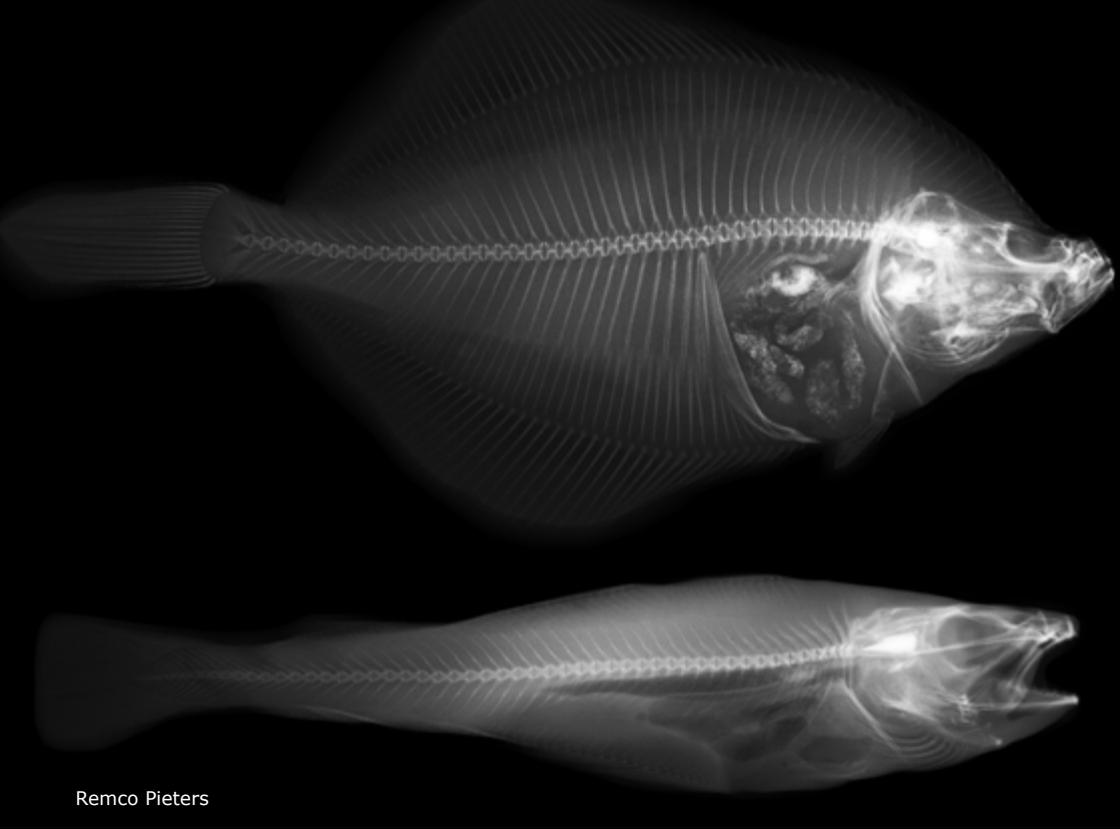
Scientists from WUR place shelters to attract herbivorous animals to coral reef restoration sites. Their grazing facilitates coral reef development.

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## February | March

week  
9  
2018





Remco Pieters



100years

Scientists from WUR use radiography, an X-ray imaging technique, to study the internal structure of marine fishes caught by electric pulse fisheries in the North Sea.

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## March

week  
10  
2018





Oscar Bos



100years

Scientists of WUR are unveiling what native and exotic species can be found in the Dutch part of the North Sea. This is an important basis for nature policy.

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## March

week

11

2018





Edwin Foekema



The GASDRIVE project aims to develop a revolutionary energy efficient ship. As spin-off, WUR researchers develop innovative methods to reduce fouling of ship hulls.

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## March

week  
12  
2018





Pieke Molenaar

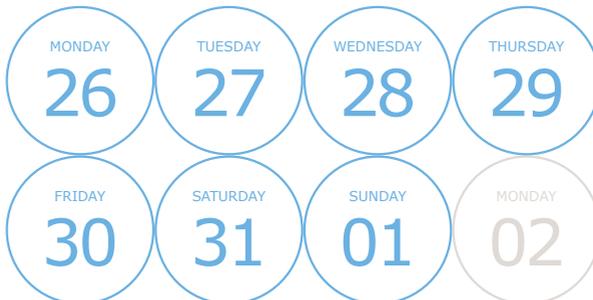


Researchers of WUR develop innovative fishing nets based on better understanding of fish behaviour. This will increase selectivity and thus reduce bycatches.

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## March | April

week  
13  
2018





Sophie Nietzel



100years

With local Asian partners, WUR aims to create incentives for governments and the private sector to manage Pacific Tuna fisheries innovatively and equitably.

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## April

week

14

2018





Pauline Kamermans



In an effort to reduce the losses from the Japanese oyster drill, a predatory snail, methods are tested to culture oysters off-bottom. WUR studies the ecological effects.

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## April

week  
15  
2018





Marit Nederlof



100years

WUR combines available knowledge in seaweed biotechnology with reliable eco-friendly tools to scale up seaweed operations and boost the blue biobased economy.

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## April

week  
16  
2018





Fisheries and Oceans Canada



100years

WUR scientist of multiple disciplines, involved in the EU HORIZON2020 project SponGES, study the roles of sponges in the deep North Atlantic Ocean.

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## April

week  
17  
2018





Blue-Forests



WUR supports Indonesian shrimp farmers by training them in Coastal Field Schools to make aquaculture sustainable and to support mangrove restoration.

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## April | May

week  
18  
2018





Benjamin Mueller

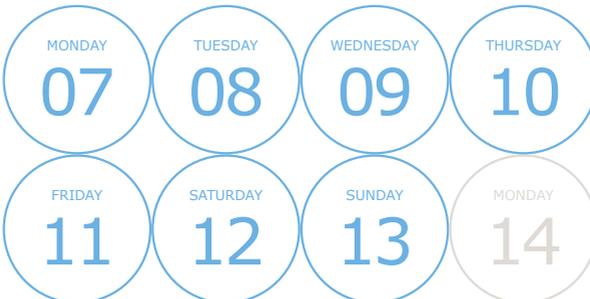


In the project 'Pumping iron' scientists from WUR study the effect of iron availability on reef community shifts from coral to sponge domination.

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## May

week  
**19**  
2018





Mare van den Heuvel



With innovative DNA techniques scientists of WUR assess the presence of marine alien species in the Arctic.

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## May

week  
20  
2018





Reindert Nijland



100years

WUR scientists study how exotic species, such as this Brush-clawed shore crab, are introduced and establishing themselves in (changing) marine environments.

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## May

week  
21

2018





Christiaan de Leeuw



100years

Researchers of WUR study the unique species communities in marine lakes in Indonesia. The absence of predators can lead to very high densities of species like this vivid shrimp.

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## May | June

week  
22

2018





Tinka Murk



100years

Traditional mussel bottom cultures depend on the environment for seed and feed. WUR works together with mussel growers to improve understanding of culture-environment relations.

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## June

week  
23

2018





Mardik Leopold



100years

Ready for take-off! WUR Scientists follow sandwich terns on their local and Atlantic journeys, using colour rings, together with Natuurmonumenten and Vogelinformatiecentrum Texel.

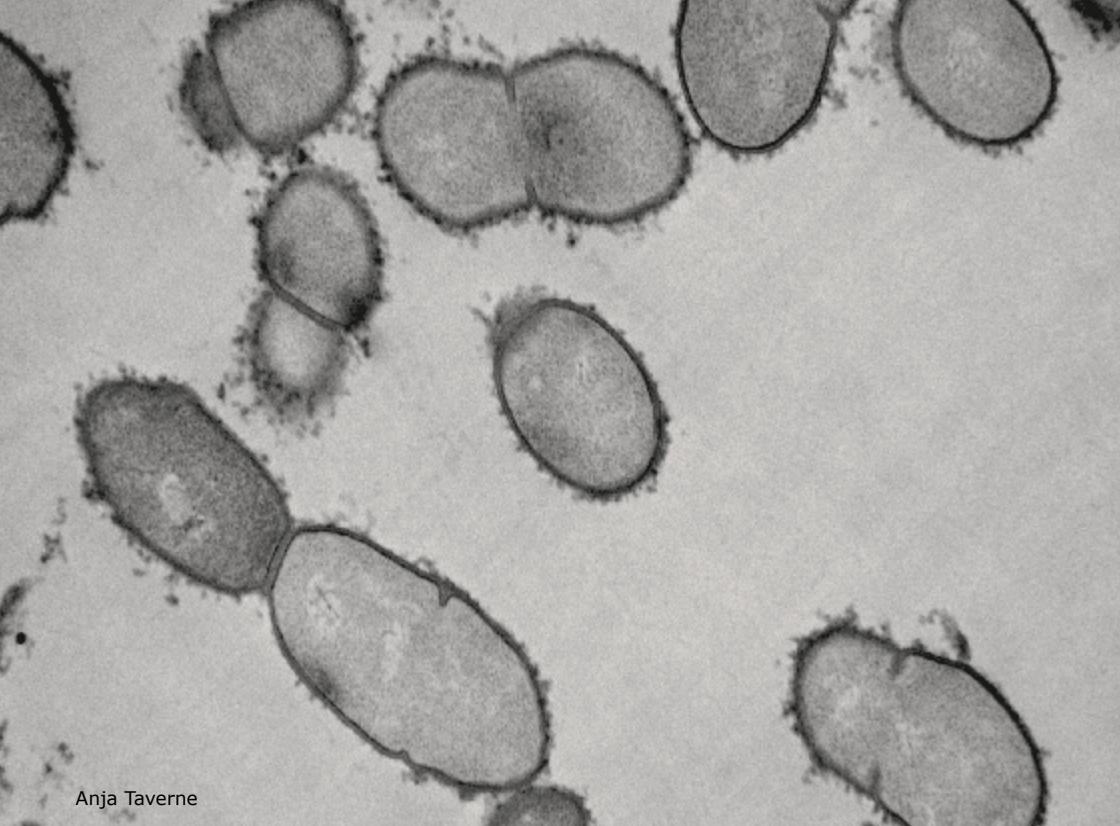
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## June

week  
24

2018





Anja Taverne



100years

Since 2015 the neurotoxin Tetrodotoxin, known from pufferfish and other warm water animals, is found in the Eastern Scheldt. Scientists from WUR search for the bacterial sources.

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## June

week  
25

2018





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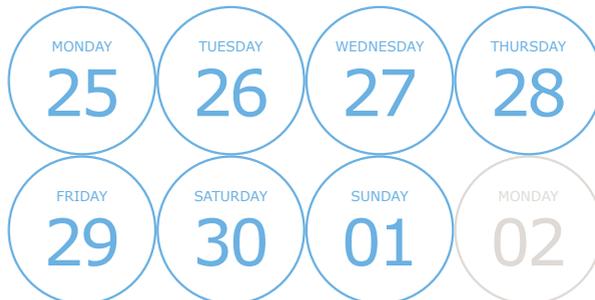


Maritime shipping transports 90% of all global trade. WUR studies how different policy instruments, e.g. law and environmental indexes, drive corporate social responsibility within this industry.

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## June | July

week  
26  
2018





Arjan Palstra



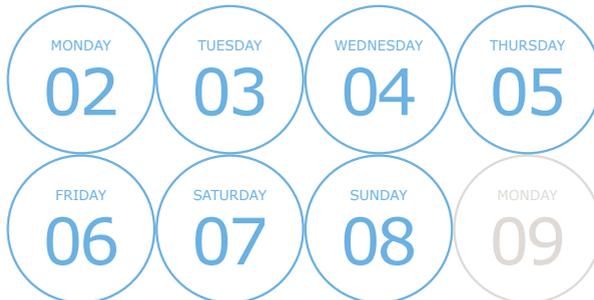
The European networking Action FITFISH unites scientists from 28 countries to study fish swimming in the wild and in aquaculture under a multidisciplinary perspective.

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## July

week  
27

2018





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In the Water Nexus program scientists from WUR aim to close the industrial water cycle by using saline water and reusing wastewater treated in green infrastructure.

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## July

week  
28  
2018





Edwin Foekema



100years

In marine mesocosms, WUR studies the consequences of factors such as nano- and microplastics or rubble beds on community development over several months.

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## July

week  
29

2018





Le Minh Truong



100years

WUR and Van Lang University study waste water reuse, by industry and agriculture, sustaining economic growth in the Mekong delta suffering from climate change and sea water intrusion.

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## July

week  
30  
2018





Tinka Murk



Researchers of WUR study how seaweed can be safely produced and sustainably combined with other types of use of marine space such as offshore wind farming.

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## July | August

week  
31  
2018





Reindert Nijland



100years

In the MERCES project researchers of WUR investigate the governance, the costs, and the benefits of restoring marine ecosystems such as seagrass beds and kelp forests.

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## August

week  
32

2018





Tinka Murk



100years

Flat oysters, a reef-building keystone species, were absent in the North Sea for decades. WUR contributes to reintroduction efforts.

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## August

week  
33  
2018





Erik Boman



To be able to improve the management of the Queen conch (*Lobatus gigas*) in the Caribbean region, their biology and ecology is studied by scientists from WUR.

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## August

week  
34

2018





Nathalie Steins



100years

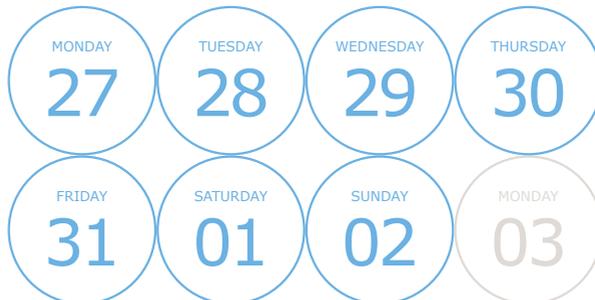
Scientists from WUR and fishing businesses are searching for more sustainable methods to catch flatfish and shrimp, including experimenting with pulse trawling.

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## August | September

week  
35

2018





Edwin Foekema



100years

Bioturbation of marine sediments is the basis for a healthy marine ecosystem. Within the C-IMAGE project scientists from WUR study the impact of oil pollution on bioturbation.

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## September

week  
36  
2018





Udo van Dongen



100years

Scientists of WUR study the role of offshore structures in the North Sea in the distribution of species and inter-connectivity of reef communities.

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## September

week  
37

2018





Douwe van den Ende



100years

WUR researchers explore the potential of using drones in mussel bed monitoring and other field research to enhance effectiveness and reduce costs.

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## September

week  
38  
2018





John Bastiaansen



100years

Scientists from WUR collaborate in the EU MedAID project (Mediterranean Aquaculture Integrated Development) addressing key factors to improve aquaculture production in the Mediterranean.

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## September | October

week  
39

2018





Robbert Jak



Scientists of WUR study the effects of dredge sediment disposal - a Mud Motor - on salt marsh expansion and nature based coastal defense in the Dutch Wadden Sea.

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## October

week  
40  
2018





Niels Hintzen



Scientists of WUR study fish from the pelagic fishing fleet for age, weight and sex. This information is used to provide ICES advice on maximum sustainable catches.

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## October

week  
**41**  
2018





Reindert Nijland



100years

In a Dutch consortium together with the Indonesian government and partners researchers of WUR developed an innovative approach for mangrove restoration.

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## October

week

42

2018





Dennis Indah Ariesty



Together with local partners, WUR designs breeding programs for aquaculture that increase the productivity and profitability of smallholder farms.

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## October

week  
43  
2018





Marie Bonnin



100years

Scientists from WUR explore opportunities and limits of marine spatial planning processes in the Tropical Atlantic, together with researchers and practitioners from Africa, Brazil and Europe.

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## October | November

week  
44

2018





Lawrence Jones-Walters



100years

Alternatives are being sought to compensate for important mangrove loss by bridge building. WUR is involved by training local stakeholders in participative management planning.

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## November

week  
45

2018





Geert Wiegertjes



100years

WUR coordinates the EU project TargetFish in which European fish immunology expert groups aim to commercialize fish vaccines to prevent fish diseases in European aquaculture.

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## November

week  
46  
2018





Diana Slijkerman



100years

WUR studies possible solutions for sustainable biodiversity-related economic development in the Caribbean Netherlands, which could reduce the current negative pressures on coral reefs.

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## November

week  
47

2018





Detmer Sipkema



100years

Scientists from WUR study symbiosis of deep-sea sponges with microorganisms and in this case with tube snails living inside a Caribbean sponge (seen from the bottom).

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## November | December

week  
48

2018





Judith Klostermann



100years

WUR scientists study how the socio-economic activities of marine communities transform due to new opportunities following climate change.

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## December

week  
49

2018





Harry Barnes-Dabban



100years

African ports develop innovative collaborative arrangements to enhance their environmental performance. These trends are explored by WUR scholars and partners.

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## December

week  
50  
2018





Park Bao



WUR studies the risks to health and environmental posed by contaminants in Chinese marine sediments that accumulate in marine animals, including this popular edible portunid crab.

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## December

week  
**51**  
2018





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WUR participates in the European training network MARmaED, in which 15 PhD students work on the socio-economic consequences of rapid marine environmental change.

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## December

week  
52

2018





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Scientists from WUR study the effects of sunscreen on coral health and try to develop less harmful bio-inspired sunscreen, made from natural sources.

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## January

week  
**1**

2019

