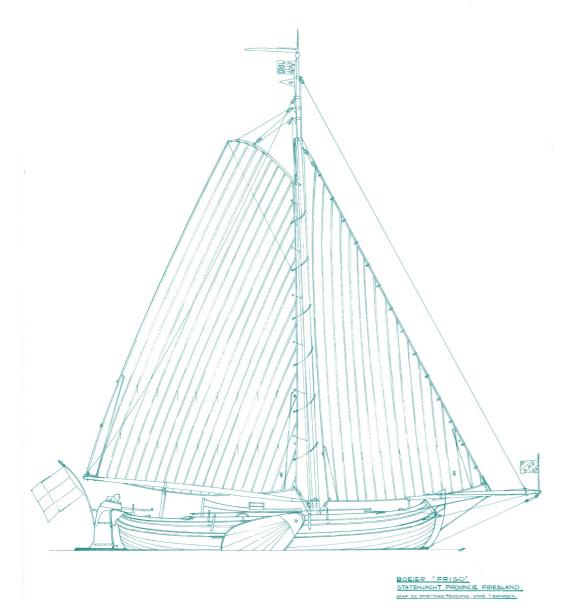
Join us on our voyage to a circular future!



The year is 1953. A flat-bottomed boat has charted a course to Fryslân. After several tumultuous years, this remarkable vessel will soon be home at long last.

The ship survived a fire, a shipwreck and a war and sustained heavy damage on multiple occasions. In each instance, however, there were those who recognised the yacht's potential and decided to give it a new lease on life. In 1952, a rumour begins to circulate that the ship, which was built in Joure in 1894 by the famous Frisian shipbuilder Eeltje Holtrop van der Zee, is to be sold to a French owner.

Hearing this, the people of Fryslân decide to take matters into their own hands and set up a fundraiser. In 1954, the time has finally come for the ship to embark on a new chapter in its life in Fryslân as state yacht. The yacht is christened Friso, after the legendary King Friso, the forefather of the Frisian population. In the years that follow, the yacht carries many prominent Dutch people on board: from Princess Beatrix and King Willem-Alexander to ice-skating legend Jeen van den Berg and chairman of the Elfsteden Jan Sipkema.

To us, the state yacht symbolises the circular economy. Not only has the ship been recycled countless times, but the Frisian population has come together to restore the vessel to its former glory so it can sail the waters of Fryslân once more.

In recent years, initiatives are being launched all over the province to help realise a more circular economy in Fryslân. It is mostly businesses and organisations who are leading this charge. Together, these businesses and organisations established the Circular Friesland Association in 2016. The Province of Fryslân provides input, collaborates with and invests in this association. The circular economy is becoming an increasingly prominent topic. Others are taking note and in 2017, the Province of Fryslân is selected as the Most Circular Region in the Netherlands. The jury is particularly impressed by the integrated approach being taken in Fryslân and the engagement on the part of entrepreneurs, governments and educational institutions.

Our goal is becoming increasingly clear:

The Province of Fryslân aspires to become the most circular region in Europe!





Why? Because we have been on this course for quite some time now and our fleet continues to grow. In Fryslân, we have taken a unique approach towards making our province more circular. Alongside local governments, the Frisian people are taking initiatives, working together and doing whatever it takes to live and work in a more circular manner.

Throughout the province, organisations, businesses and private citizens are taking action and working together rapidly and effectively.

For example, Fryslân is home to the National Test Centre Circular Plastics and ROEN.cc, an online networking platform for entrepreneurs working on sustainable innovations. The education sector in Fryslân has embraced the circular economy and we want the Wadden Islands to become the first islands in Europe to be entirely circular.

We want to become the most circular region in Europe and - through our efforts and successes - inspire other regions and countries as well.

So:





In Fryslân, there are myriad initiatives designed to contribute to the realisation of a circular economy

The Province of Fryslân is characterised by the unique collaboration between businesses, entrepreneurs, knowledge institutions, (social) organisations and governments in the form of the Circular Friesland Association.

On the following pages, you will find a number of projects, knowledge institutions and initiatives related to the field of the circular economy in Fryslân.





Circular Friesland Association

Where do I begin with the circular economy? In 2015, that question inspired seven businesses to take the first step towards closing their loops. Together with the Province of Fryslân and the Municipality of Leeuwarden, they ordered a Material Flow Analysis for Fryslân.

The countless circular possibilities, Frisian opportunities and promising circles that came to light inspired entrepreneurs, knowledge institutions, (social) organisations and governments. In 2016, that led to the foundation of the Circular Friesland Association by twenty-five businesses and organisations. Today, circa one hundred members are paving the way towards a circular economy together. They are supported by the theme specialists of the Circular Friesland Association: circularity experts who help parties implement circularity and sustainability in their business operations, identify bottlenecks, bring supply and demand together, stay up to date on the latest laws and regulations and can give parties a nudge in the right direction when they need it.

www.circulairfriesland.frl/en

WaterCampus

With its large number of educational and research institutions, research facilities and water technology businesses, the Frisian capital of Leeuwarden is a real water city: *Capital of Water Technology*.

WaterCampus is the go-to hub for the Dutch water technology sector and it plays a unifying role in the sector on a European scale.

WaterCampus facilitates and stimulates collaboration between national and international businesses, knowledge institutions and governments in the water technology sector. This creates synergy for innovations, education and entrepreneurship and strengthens the position of the European water technology sector. Its unique research infrastructure also makes WaterCampus a fascinating and inspirational meeting ground for scientists and businesses from all over Europe.

www.watercampus.nl





National Test Centre Circular Plastics

The National Test Centre Circular Plastics (NTCP) in Heerenveen provides an important impulse towards giving plastic waste a new lease on life. This research centre dedicated to improving the sorting and recycling of plastic packaging offers new and essential opportunities for knowledge, collaboration and innovations within the plastic chain. The NTCP's ambition is to close the plastic loop entirely. This means that plastic is sustainably reused for its original application and that the percentage of recycled plastics in for example packaging increases significantly.

The independent test centre is available to the entire sector. Educational institutions, businesses and other organisations can work together in the test lab on plastic solutions and innovations. The NTCP also serves a public function related to the sharing of knowledge about plastics, circularity and reuse.

www.ntcp.nl

Spark the Movement

Businesses, municipalities, the Province of Fryslân and all major educational institutions in Fryslân have embarked on the path towards a circular economy and a sustainable world together. Spark the Movement, an initiative of the Circular Friesland Association, stimulates and supports this movement in and with education.

Spark the Movement is designed for lecturers, directors, janitors, teaching assistants, policy makers and administrators. In other words: anyone involved in the world of education. They are invited and encouraged to help young people come up with sustainable solutions for the major challenges of our modern age in a local context. All steps in the right direction (sparks) can be linked to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

The Frisian approach has been internationally recognised by the United Nations with the title of Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development.

www.sparkthemovement.nl





Bicycle bridge Ritsumasyl

On its path towards a fully circular economy, the Province of Fryslân is - literally and figuratively - heading down an innovative road with the biocomposite bicycle bridge across the Van Harinxmakanaal at Ritsumasyl. This bicycle bridge has a moveable clear span of 22 metres and consists of a total of 66 metres of biocomposite road surface made using renewable raw materials such as flax and resin.

The manner of collaboration that led to the realisation of this bridge is also unique; the approach brought together infrastructure, circular economy, innovation and knowledge development and enabled the members of the construction team to ask each other questions, share ideas and be inquisitive. The result is an innovative bicycle bridge in the form of a swing bridge with biocomposite bridge decks, which are made of 80% natural materials.

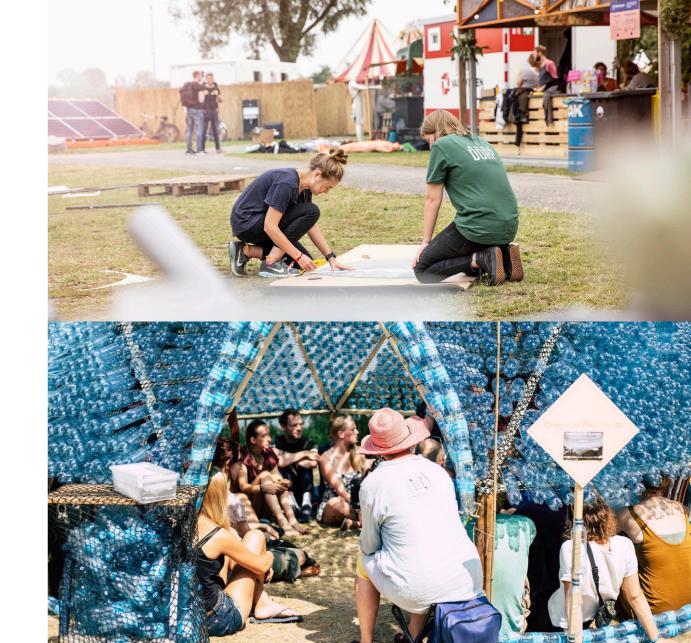
www.drive.frl

Welcome to the Village

Inspired by the belief that 'what works at a festival must surely work out in the real world as well,' the Welcome to the Village festival serves as a temporary society on a tiny scale for a few days out of the year. The festival is held in a nature reserve near the Frisian capital of Leeuwarden. A large and diverse company of artists, musicians, chefs and startups provides a programme that not only entertains, but also inspires discussion and speculation about what our world will look like in the future.

Prior to and during the festival, various sustainable and circular solutions and prototypes for the future are developed and tested. Everyone is welcome to attend and take part. Welcome to the Village works together with many local caterers and farmers, constructs its own stages and enlists the help of senior citizens and people working in social workshops to create its visual elements. The festival is inspired by the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and strives to be fully circular.

www.welcometothevillage.nl





State yacht made out of circular plastic

It all began with an idea to preserve the state yacht using sustainable circular plastic. That idea was quickly dismissed. Although design drawings were available, there were no 3D drawings of the state yacht. In terms of planning and execution, it was not feasible to pull the vessel out of the water to be scanned in the middle of the yachting season. Luckily, the international game development company Grendel Games - located just fifty metres away from the provincial hall - offered to help.

Using the model of the state yacht from the National Maritime Museum and various pictures and design drawings, they managed to create a 3D design and a perfect replica of the state yacht. Together with the lectorate sustainable plastics of NHL Stenden University of Applied Sciences, 3D prints of the yacht were made out of sustainable plastic. After a period of designing, experimenting and fine-tuning, this resulted in the first state yacht made out of sustainable plastic.

You can find more information about the sustainable state yacht, our projects and our plans for the future at www.circulairfriesland.frl/en

Our sources of inspiration for a circular economy

In Fryslân, we are working towards building a thriving society on a planet with self-healing and regenerative capacities. We believe that to be the ultimate goal of a circular economy.

In our pursuit, we are inspired by the United Nations' Sustainable

Development Goals, Kate Raworth's *Doughnut Economics*, the principles
of *Cradle to Cradle* (Braungart & McDonough)

and the seven characteristics of a circular

economy developed by the

sustainable think tank Metabolic.



Partners

Below is an overview of our partners in the European network with whom we collaborate on the realisation of the circular economy.

We are always on the lookout for new partners and new projects.

Contact Sander Bos via sander.bos@fryslan.frl if you would like to join us on our circular journey.











