



Climate

This document refers specifically to the Climate track of the Netherlands' participation at Expo 2025. Please use this message when speaking to an international audience on behalf of the Netherlands. It is meant for external use and can be copied directly. It should be used as the foundation in your communications on behalf of the Netherlands around this track. Below you will find; a slogan, a summary of this track in a few lines, the proposition of the track, the connection to Common Ground and the full long-read narrative

Slogan:

Paving the way to a sustainable future

Getting straight to the point:

The Netherlands is keen to collaborate with partners in Japan to turn sustainability challenges into creative solutions. From hydrogen and offshore wind energy to innovative storage solutions and circular buildings. Join us in paving the way to a sustainable future.

Proposition of the track:

The global community stands at a pivotal moment in history, confronting the difficult challenge of climate change. To safeguard our planet from the risky consequences of warming beyond 1.5 degrees Celsius, decisive action must be taken. Nations like the Netherlands and Japan, intimately connected to the sea, face the looming prospect of rising sea levels, a reminder of the urgent need for collective efforts. Climate action transcends borders and ideologies; it is the moral imperative of our time. The Netherlands is committed to change and envisions a future powered by innovation and collaboration. With unwavering determination, we embark on a journey towards a net-zero future, focusing on solutions in the realm of energy transition and storage, as well as the circular economy. Looking at Japan, we hope to find new partnerships to help us achieve our ambitions to be climate-neutral and completely circular by 2050.

Connection to common ground:

In the spirit of centuries-old collaboration between the Netherlands and Japan, we stand at the threshold of a new era, united in our commitment to forging a sustainable future. Just as our historical ties shaped the exchange of knowledge and expertise, today, we embark on a transformative journey to confront the pressing challenges of climate change, energy transition, and circular economy. The Netherlands, with its pioneering initiatives and innovative solutions, extends a hand of partnership to Japan's industries, recognising our shared vulnerabilities and the urgency of collective action. From the shores of Rotterdam to the landscapes of Yumeshima, we envision a future where collaboration transcends boundaries, where expertise converges, and where resilience and progress are the cornerstones of our shared destiny. As we navigate the complexities of sustainability, let us draw upon our collective energy, harnessing the power of innovation and collaboration to pave the way for a healthier, more resilient world for generations to come. Together, we can turn challenges into opportunities, paving the way for a future where sustainability is not just a goal but a way of life—a legacy of collaboration, ingenuity, and common ground.

Narrative:

As the world experiences more disruptions caused by climate changes, the urgency for decisive action has never been greater. The Netherlands finds itself seeking innovative solutions with global partners that will help solve global challenges. This search extends to compelling partnerships with Japanese industries committed to tackling the energy transition, sustainability, and circular economy. As nations with a shared vulnerability to rising sea levels, both the Netherlands and Japan recognise the urgency of climate action to avert further environmental catastrophe. The Netherlands is on a mission to pioneer net-zero technologies, paving the way for a transition into a climate-neutral and circular economy by 2050. We believe collaborative partnerships are essential to achieve this ambitious goal.

The dilemma of sustainability looms large as we confront the repercussions of climate change. The challenges within this transformative journey are multifaceted and dynamic, ranging from the transition to green hydrogen in the hydrogen sector to pioneering innovations in floating energy for offshore energy. With both countries largely dependent on critical materials for energy, new ways to deploy renewable energy are directly needed. Green chemistry confronts the dual challenge of shifting to renewable energy and finding sustainable alternatives to traditional feedstocks like oil and gas, while also using these traditional feedstocks in a sustainable and circular way. Meanwhile, the circular economy with its broad implications in all aspects of our society, demands a paradigm shift in how we design, use, re-use and recycle our products. An especially large impact can be made in the built environment requiring behavioural changes, net zero innovations and resource efficiency.

In the midst of these challenges, the Netherlands emerges as a beacon of hope and innovation, offering solutions across various domains. For offshore energy, the Dutch maritime manufacturing industry stands as a global leader, ready to share its vast expertise and contribute to the development of offshore energy farms in collaboration with Japanese partners. Various regions of the Netherlands, for example Rotterdam and Groningen, are evolving into hydrogen hubs, welcoming Japanese companies and serving as a focal point for technological advancements in electrolysers, production equipment, and infrastructure crucial for the hydrogen industry. There are also opportunities for collaboration when looking into energy transition challenges, for example how best to store excess renewable energy.

In the realm of circular economy, the Netherlands aims to serve as a guiding country, experimenting and implementing technologies in sustainable construction, such as modular and circular bridges, promoting the use of circular materials in utility buildings, and circular design. This aligns seamlessly with Japan's keen interest in Dutch circular economy policies, both in the public and private sectors. Opportunities also lie in energy storage. Aquifer Thermal Energy Storage (ATES) is a source of renewable energy that is extracted from the subsurface using the heat naturally present in soil and groundwater, which is then stored underground in aquifers. The sector is now facing the intricate task of integrating ATES with batteries, solar, and hydrogen production for efficient grid storage nationally and internationally.

Recognising the common ground between Japan and the Netherlands - such as a shared reliance on petrochemical industries, a mutual interest in offshore energy, a common goal to reduce dependencies on critical raw materials, and a commitment to developing a circular economy to reach our international climate goals - the call to collaborate becomes even more resonant. This partnership transcends geographical boundaries, bringing together diverse perspectives to forge ground-breaking solutions. The Netherlands invites businesses to join hands in this transformative journey, leveraging collective expertise to pioneer sustainable and circular solutions for a healthier, more resilient future.

As we face the complexities of climate change, the collaboration between Japan and the Netherlands promises not only to address pressing global challenges but also to inspire innovation, foster understanding, and pave the way for a more sustainable and healthier way of life for everyone. Together, we can transcend the limitations of individual efforts and create a future where the energy transition, sustainability, and circular economy become synonymous with progress, resilience, and shared prosperity.

Expo 2025 is the upcoming World Expo, held in Osaka from 13 April to 13 October 2025. The communications materials provided are to be used when communicating about the Netherlands participation at Expo 2025.

For more information visit www.NLexpo2025.nl