



*Challenges and subsequent measures in the IJsselmeer area because of environmental pressures*

After the success of the previous Erasmus + Blended Intensive Program (BIP) on satellite data and water management we are pleased to announce the launch of a new Erasmus+ BIP focused on **Water Management in Relation to Climate Change**. The aim of this program is to bring students with different disciplines together to tackle complex, multi-layered challenges in water management.

*Erasmus+ funding is available to support travel and subsistence costs to attend the Blended Learning Course from your own institute.*

### Challenges from climate change

As climate change is ramping up and its effects are becoming more and more apparent, so do challenges regarding water management. This is especially true for the Netherlands, where one-third of the country lies below sea level. The IJsselmeer, the nation's largest inland freshwater lake, supplies drinking water to millions, supports key economic activities, provides critical habitat, and offers space for energy-transition projects and urban growth.

While previously an inland sea, human interventions have cut off the IJsselmeer from the Wadden Sea, providing a large, stable reservoir, fed by the River IJssel, for drinking water and agriculture, while boosting economics and safety. This has resulted in a highly controlled, artificial freshwater lake. Today, climate-driven pressures—ranging from fluctuating water levels to ecological stresses—demand innovative, interdisciplinary solutions.

Join us to explore cutting-edge water-management solutions—and experience first-hand how the Netherlands stays dry today and prepares for tomorrow.

### Your role as a water manager (program goals):

- **Interdisciplinary collaboration:** Work in international, cross-functional teams to analyze real-world IJsselmeer case studies.
- **Systems thinking:** Understand how hydrology, ecology, engineering, economics and policy intersect in Dutch water management.
- **Professional development:** Reflect on your role and identity as a future water professional while honing English communication skills.

### Is this BIP for you? Interesting if...

- You study at an Erasmus partner of Aeres UAS.
- You enjoy solving problems, handling complex issues, connecting people and perspectives and reflecting on your personal and professional development
- You are open to new perspectives.
- You are willing to cooperate across disciplines and build bridges
- You are comfortable working in English
- You want to discover “the Dutch way of water management: How do they do it!”

### Format and key activities

**Duration:** Three weeks (blended)

- **Online preparation (Weeks 1 & 3):**

Week 1: February 9, 2026 – February 13, 2026. Week 3: March 9, 2026 – March 13, 2026.

- Team-building and orientation on Dutch water management and professional identity
- Guest lectures by water-management experts
- Group work on assigned IJsselmeer challenges
- Interim reflection and feedback

- **On-site week in Almere, NL (Week 2):**

March 2, 2026 – March 6, 2026

- Field excursions around Lake IJsselmeer, including cultural activities
- In-depth workshops and guest lectures
- Intensive group work and presentations
- Final evaluation and reflection

**Credits:** 3 ECTS (confirm recognition with your home institution).

### Costs and Practicalities

- **Tuition:** Free of charge.
- **Funding:** Erasmus+ grants can cover travel, accommodation and subsistence (subject to documentation).
- **Housing:** Aeres UAS will organize suitable accommodation in Almere; a modest student contribution may apply.
- **BIP Code:** 2025-NL01-KA131-HED-000306104-4

### How to apply

- **Deadline for application:** November 28, 2025
- **Get nominated by your International Office via this link:** [Nomination sheet](#)
- **Information & questions:**
  - Academic content: **Mr. Sander Harting MSc** – [s.harting@aeres.nl](mailto:s.harting@aeres.nl)
  - Erasmus+ administration: Contact your home Erasmus coordinator or International Office of Aeres UAS: [international.uas@aeres.nl](mailto:international.uas@aeres.nl)

Aeres University of Applied Sciences reserves the right to admit international students to the BIP through a selection procedure in the case of a large number of applications.