

Policy Plan 2026–2028

Weather Makers Foundation (Stichting The Weather Makers)

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Adopted by the board in September 2026. In accordance with article 9.8 of the articles of association, this policy plan sets out the activities the Foundation intends to carry out, how it raises funds, and how it manages and spends its assets. It is reviewed annually and revised at least every three years.

1. Purpose, mission and vision

The Foundation is a public benefit organisation (Algemeen Nut Beogende Instelling, ANBI) within the meaning of article 5b of the Dutch General Tax Act. Its statutory purpose is to initiate, design and implement holistic infrastructure programmes and projects, to provide advice, to conduct scientific research and to guide works in progress for the benefit of ecosystems affected by climate change, and to implement these worldwide.

Mission. Restore the water cycle. We strive to develop the technologies that restore the water cycle, and put them in the hands of the communities that regenerate their own land.

Vision. A green Sinai. A world that thinks in water, where degraded landscapes turn green again. Our long-term vision is the regeneration of the Sinai Peninsula with a durable water cycle, teeming with life. A shining example of ecosystem regeneration that can be applied to degraded lands where billions live today in ever harsher conditions.

2. Strategy: why this Foundation is needed

Since 2016 the landscape of the northern Sinai and Lake Bardawil, on the Mediterranean coast, has been studied. The question was whether a water cycle that broke down thousands of years ago can be deliberately restarted, and if so, how. The result is a blueprint for landscape-scale restoration and a substantial body of data behind it.

The research indicates that landscape-scale restoration is technically within reach. The underlying science is well established: vegetation, soil moisture and evaporation shape local climate and rainfall. How far these feedback loops can be deliberately restored, and how fast, is less certain. Proving it in the field, with independent measurement, is the current focus.

The harder problem is economic. The value of a living landscape (the water it stores, the air it cools, the life it carries) barely registers in today's economy. Carbon credits cover only a fraction. A decade of work taught us, at real cost, that regeneration rarely pays for itself yet. The projects that matter most tend to be the ones that don't get built.

This is the Foundation's reason for being. Where markets don't yet invest, catalytic funding can. The Foundation builds the evidence for a future business case: showing where regeneration pays, what it is truly worth, and how it can stand on its own. The method is set out in the Blueprint of the Bardawil & Sinai Initiative (BSI), published in 2025 and freely available on the website. From there the Foundation works back to what can be proven: the same method that cools and greens a schoolyard is the method that, scaled and connected, can regenerate a degraded region.

3. Activities

The Foundation raises and manages funds, makes money and goods available, donates to other ANBIs with a similar purpose, and works with private and public partners. Its programme rests on three pillars.

Pillar 1 — Demonstration and collaborations

Pilots are living laboratories: each site must show that nature-based solutions deliver measurable benefits for people and landscape, and each is built with the local community. For every collaboration the Foundation delivers a design (what fits the site, how to build it, how to measure it), follows the implementation from the first conversation onwards, and brings the monitoring data back to further develop the technologies.

- **Define:** select representative sites and set technical and ecological objectives, with early involvement of local universities.
- **Design:** design the technical set-up, including a measurement system for microclimate, water yield, biodiversity and productivity; raise the Technology Readiness Level with academic partners.
- **Deliver:** build and operate the installations under real conditions, and use the data to strengthen the blueprint.

Sites under consideration include schools and urban locations in the Netherlands, a regeneration research centre on a working organic farm in Egypt, and coastal concepts in Spain and the United Arab Emirates.

Pillar 2 — Education and awareness

Podcasts, documentaries, lectures and schoolyard installations show that regeneration is possible and enable the next generation to measure it for themselves. Above all they carry one insight: think in water.

- **Define:** the core story that connects water-cycle restoration to food, energy and social resilience, with key messages for communities, policymakers, investors and the general public.
- **Design:** storyboard and visual language for the campaign, aligned with the fundraising route.
- **Deliver:** a multichannel awareness campaign around the water cycle.

Ambassadors build collaborations across regeneration, agriculture, education and policy, through live lectures, podcasts and documentary films.

Pillar 3 — Research and development

Models that can assess the potential of water-cycle restoration are largely missing. Together with Wetsus, moisture-tracking models, atmospheric boundary-layer models, turbulence models and machine-learning case studies have been developed in recent years to close that gap. The Foundation now strives to bring this research further by creating more site data for validation and calibration.

- **Define:** establish the functional principles and performance expectations of strategic evaporation; build an integrated model that combines water connectivity, turbulence and simplified atmospheric models into a probabilistic framework.
- **Design:** prioritise the most relevant modelling routes and design small-scale prototypes, with a monitoring programme for intensive measurement.
- **Deliver:** working prototypes that provide the field data to validate the models, leading to scalable guidelines and cost-benefit analyses for water-cycle restoration.

The evaporative cooling projects (katabatic towers) will provide the first batch of relevant data for the training of the models.

Activities and Objectives

Year	Activities	Funding raised ¹
2024	Fundraising and governance setup	€ 50k
2025	Blueprint BSI documentation and publication of supporting papers Support for the katabatic tower pilot on the Granada salt pan	€ 400k
2026	Wetlands pilot Prototype development for circular agriculture and urban nature Patent filing	€ 150k
Year	Objectives	Funding objective
2027	Wetlands pilot continuation Circular agriculture pilot and/or Urban nature pilot Prototype development for arid conditions Patent extension	€ 500k
2028	Continuation of pilots Agriculture pilot in arid conditions Greening pilot in arid conditions	€ 1,000k

1) Funding received from Stichting de Boomgaard, NoVo Foundation, Musterds Seed Trust and the New World Foundation

4. Open knowledge, protected innovation

The Foundation's methodology and science are published openly for anyone to use. Specific technical innovations that emerge from its projects will be patented and held by the Foundation, so that nobody can lock them up and that licences will generate recurring income for the mission.

The patents do not restrict the work but steward it. The Foundation licenses its technologies to impact companies: independent companies that each take one technology to market in one application area. Because the Foundation develops the technology on grants, these companies start without a large development debt and can focus on bringing the cost down. Clients who can afford the technology buy it from the impact companies; those who cannot; receive it through programmes funded by the Foundation.

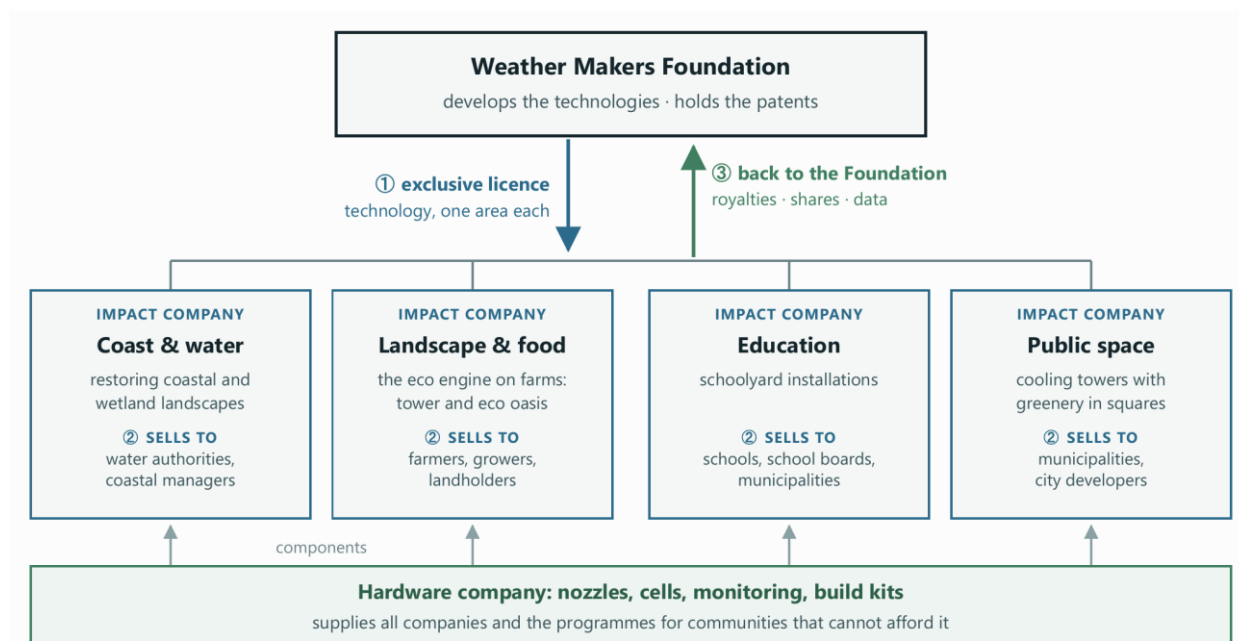


Figure 1. The Foundation develops the technologies and holds the patents; impact companies each license one application area.

The Foundation receives three kinds of return:

- **Recurring revenue:** royalties related to what each impact company sells. They grow with sales and continue under a new owner.
- **Transactional revenue:** shares where appropriate, a stake in the impact company, which may be sold once the company succeeds. Or a patent is sold.
- **Data:** units, whether sold or given away, report their measurements back. That data sharpens the method, feeds the next innovation and can one day show what restored water and soil are worth.

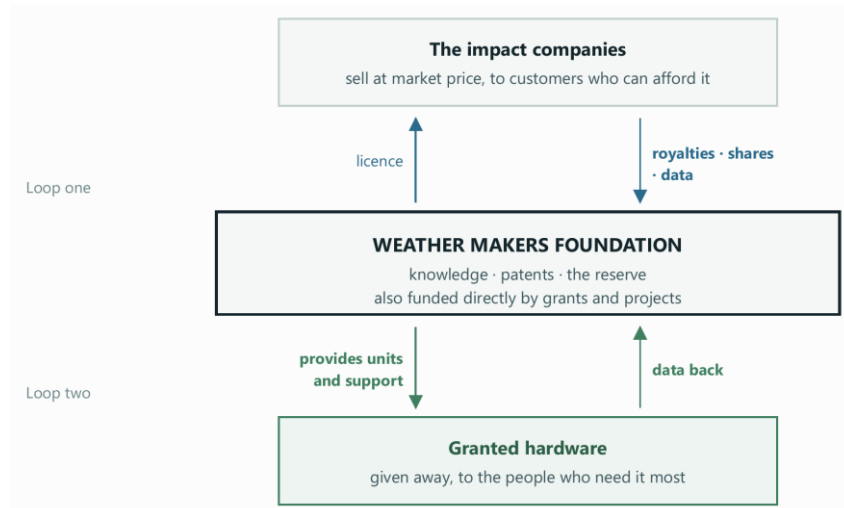


Figure 2. Two loops: market sales fund the Foundation; granted hardware reaches those who need it most.

The board adopts a licensing and participation policy that sets out at least: when the Foundation licenses and on what pricing principles; the impact conditions attached to a licence, including exclusivity; the arrangement for free or reduced-cost use where communities cannot pay; when the Foundation takes a shareholding, of what size, and when it divests; and the procedure where a board member or team member has an interest. Licences are priced at arm's length and recorded in writing. All proceeds serve the Foundation's purpose; no distributions are made to founders or members of its bodies.

5. Fundraising and income

The Foundation's income comes from two sources.

a. Grants, donations and funded projects

- donations and multi-year pledges from private donors;
- contributions from philanthropic and endowed foundations in the Netherlands, the EU and the United States. To date this include Mustard Seed Trust, NoVo Foundation and Stichting de Boomgaard;
- grants from public research and innovation programmes;
- in-kind contributions: knowledge, equipment and research capacity from partners;
- legacies and bequests, which are accepted only under the benefit of inventory.

The Foundation is registered as an ANBI in the Netherlands, which may give Dutch and EU donors tax advantages. For US foundations and donor-advised funds, the Foundation holds an Equivalency Determination, allowing it to be funded as if it were a US public charity.

Fundraising is carried out by the board and the core team through direct relationships, publications, the website and the awareness campaign. The Foundation does not fundraise door-to-door, by telephone or through commercial fundraising agencies.

b. Recurring or transactional revenues

Fees related to the use or sell of patents and knowledge held by the Foundation, under the conditions of chapter 4.

6. Asset management

The Foundation's liquid assets consist of on-demand bank balances at Triodos Bank and are not invested. The Foundation holds no securities portfolio and takes no investment risk for the sake of return.

Alongside liquid assets, the Foundation may hold two kinds of purpose-bound assets: intellectual property (patents and associated know-how) and minority stakes in impact companies that apply the method. Both are held because they serve the Foundation's purpose, not as investments. The board assesses annually whether this is still the case and records that assessment. Acquisition, valuation and disposal follow the licensing and participation policy.

7. Board, organisation and remuneration policy

The board consists of at least three members and appoints from among its members a chair, a secretary and a treasurer. The positions of chair and treasurer are currently vacant; pending new appointments, Gijs Bosman acts as chair and treasurer ad interim. The board is actively seeking candidates.

Position	Name
Chair	Bunno Arends
Secretary	Vacancy
Treasurer	Vacancy
<i>Acting secretary and acting treasurer</i>	<i>Gijs Bosman</i>

Remuneration policy. Board members receive no remuneration for their work. Expenses incurred in the performance of their duties are reimbursed, as is a non-excessive attendance fee.

Board regulations. The board adopts regulations setting out the division of tasks, decision-making, the handling of conflicts of interest, and arrangements for when board members are absent or unable to act. The licensing and participation policy is annexed to these regulations. A board member with a direct or indirect personal interest in a licence or shareholding does not take part in deliberation or decision-making on it; the decision and its justification are recorded in writing.

Organisation. The board is supported by a core team that carries out the programmes: Ties van der Hoeven, Alexander Remi and Gijs Bosman. Ambassadors are John D. Liu, John Todd and, in memory, Millán M. Millán. Researchers, engineers and advisors are engaged on a project basis. The Foundation currently has no paid employees (0 FTE) and no volunteers.

9. Accountability

The financial year is the calendar year. Within six months of the end of each financial year, the board draws up the balance sheet and the statement of income and expenditure, and may appoint an expert to audit them. Books and records are kept for seven years.

Each year the Foundation publishes on its website: this policy plan, the activity report, the balance sheet and statement of income and expenditure with notes, and the standard ANBI publication form.