



Policy plan

Advocates for the Future

Organisational information

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Introduction

Stichting Advocates for the Future ("**AftF**") is a not-for-profit *stichting* registered in the Netherlands. AftF contributes to the public benefit by pushing for systemic change in central nodes of the economy. AftF combines legal expertise, in-depth research and the power of advocacy to contribute to a better future for people and planet.

Mission and vision

AftF is an innovative law charity that advocates for the future. It seeks to protect the public interest, with a particular emphasis on the future represented by young people and future generations. AftF advocates for people and planet when fundamental rights are in jeopardy.

AftF has a broad mission. It aims to protect people, animals and the planet against (dangerous) climate change, loss of biodiversity, environmental pollution, soil depletion and the degradation and destruction of ecosystems and to contribute to a sustainable society and to seek solutions to social issues. All with an aim to protect current and future generations both within and outside the Netherlands. A large part of AftF's work will focus on the climate crisis, as that crisis already severely impacts the planet, biodiversity and people in vulnerable areas and situations. We want the voices of people that are or will be negatively affected by climate change to be heard.

AftF is committed to corporate and public sector accountability, advancing (climate) justice and driving systemic change. AftF has a vision of the world in which the respect for fundamental rights is key, and in which we manage to diminish negative impacts on people, biodiversity and the world.

Action

AftF combines legal, advocacy and campaigning strategies to fulfil its mission. It uses this combination to raise awareness of key issues in our society and apply pressure on key inflection points in our economy. AftF focuses on tipping points where the economic system is currently yielding outcomes that are unjust and unsustainable.

AftF pursues its goals through advocacy in the broadest sense:

- We advocate by being a voice in the public debate, informing the general public, policymakers and other stakeholders about the most pressing issues of our time;
- We advocate by implementing innovative legal projects, supporting sustainable frontrunners and policymakers;
- We advocate by developing and executing legal campaigns, to break the status quo.

AftF recently started with a small and high-impact core team. Our vision for the next few years is to expand our team and build a solid organisation of lawyers, researchers and campaigners, focussing on the most pressing issues of our time. AftF's organisational set-up focuses on agility, capable of conducting much of the work in-house while seeking to leverage the strengths and know-how of AftF's cooperation partners.

Objectives 2025

We have just started and already launched a number of successful projects. For 2025, we expect to solidify our organisation and bring in more expertise to develop our existing campaigns and develop new campaigns.

We will continue our ports campaign. This campaign puts the spotlight on the direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions related to fossil activities in the Port of Rotterdam. The campaign seeks to identify the main sources of those emissions. It also aims to underline the responsibility of the Port of Rotterdam Authority. Together with a group of worried youngsters, AftF has called upon the Port of Rotterdam Authority to develop and execute a credible climate plan. According to AftF, such a plan must include a fossil phase-out. The initial letter to the Port of Rotterdam Authority was co-signed by a large coalition of 40+ organisations, representing the interests of young people, the environment, climate and human rights.

We will also continue our campaign against greenwashing practices related to the use of LNG in shipping. Last year, we won a greenwashing procedure against MSC Cruises in relation to its illegal claims that LNG is a “sustainable” fuel. In cooperation with other NGOs, AftF submitted a (successful) complaint before the Dutch Advertising Standards Board against those advertisements. As part of the complaint, AftF published a report on the problematic climate impact of LNG, and is continuing its campaign against sustainability claims related to LNG.

In addition, we are working on a number of campaigns, which we expect to launch in 2025.

Funding

AftF generates income through fundraising from donations, for example through gifts, legacies, inheritances, subsidies or other types of donations or acquisitions. It actively pursues funding from private funds and individuals in this manner. As a not-for-profit organisation, the funds are used to further the mission of AftF, as outlined above.

The assets of AftF serve to achieve the purpose of the organisation. No natural person nor a legal entity can dispose of the assets of AftF as if they were their own. Assets are disbursed by the Board, in accordance with the budget that is approved by the Supervisory Board. The main expenditures are labour costs, procurement of (legal) services and associated expenses. Accounts are audited on an annual basis by external accountants.

AftF does not hold more assets than are reasonably necessary for the continuation of the anticipated activities for the purpose of the foundation. Any surplus in assets will be held on AftF's bank account and will be allocated by the Board in accordance with the budget that is approved by the Supervisory Board.

Governance

AftF has a Board and a Supervisory Board.

The Supervisory Board is responsible to supervise the functioning of AftF and the Board. It is responsible to approve the strategy as proposed by the Board. The Supervisory Board currently consists of the following members:

- **Femke Bartels:** co-founder of Catalytic. Femke is a former Global Forest Director and Executive Director of Greenpeace Mexico, mobilizing millions to preserve our planet's precious ecosystems. She was also the Managing Partner at THINK School of Leadership, where she designed and facilitated transformational leadership programs.
- **Sanne van Keulen:** head of brand & identity at Triodos Bank group. Sanne has been part of the management team of Greenpeace Netherlands and is an experienced campaigner.
- **Radboud van Delft:** senior management consultant for civil society organisations. Radboud previously served as Organisation Director at PAX for Peace and Greenpeace. He is a member of the supervisory board of SOMO.
- **Caecilia Thunnissen:** artistic executive director of stichting Oorkaan. Caecilia is stage director in opera, music theatre, staged concerts and dance dramaturge.
- **Jaantje Kramer:** lawyer at Jebbink Soeteman specialised in criminal law. Jaantje regularly defends student protestors in legal proceedings against the government.

The Board is responsible to execute the strategy as approved by the Supervisory Board. The Board consists of one Director, Maikel van Wissen, founder of the Foundation.

Members of the Supervisory Board and the Board do not receive remuneration for the performance of their duties in their capacity of Supervisory Board Member or Director, other than a reimbursement for reasonable costs actually incurred.