

# Midterm Event in Middelburg

From Heat Islands to Cool Cities and Cool Neighbourhoods



 **12 March 2026**

 **12:00 - 17:00**

 [Stadsschouwburg  
Middelburg, NL](https://stadsschouwburgmiddelburg.nl)

## Program of the day

**Moderator of the day: Tako Popma**

**12:00 – 13:00** Lunch and poster exhibition

**13:00 – 13:15 Welcome & opening**

by Vice Mayor Middelburg: Jeroen Louws  
(Environment and Sustainability)

**13:15 – 13:30 Joint introduction**

Why Cool Cities and Cool Neighbourhoods

**13:30 – 13:50 Interreg's future of European cooperation**

Why EU collaboration matters: insights from the  
Joint Secretariats of North-West Europe and the  
North Sea Region

**13:50 - 14:20 Keynote: Tim van Hattum,  
Climate Expert and Writer**

Why the climate and biodiversity crisis is urgent,  
and which solutions can truly make a difference.

**14:20 – 14:40 Planning equitable Cool Networks**

Identifying and prioritising project locations  
for urban heat adaptation. Stephanie Erwin,  
University of Applied Sciences Amsterdam

**14:40 – 15:00 Empowering Communities  
Across Different Neighbourhood Typologies**

Emma Westerduin, Except Integrated  
Sustainability

**15:00 – 15:20 GreenDense pattern Atlas: from  
theory to practice in Bruges**

Eva Gheselle, Hydrologist, City of Bruges

**15:20 – 15:40**

Q&A presentations

**15:40 – 16:10**

Coffee break

**16:10 – 16:40 Keynote: Inge van Wijk,  
Landscape Designer at BoschSlabbers  
Landscape Architects**

Better health begins at your front door. Green  
streets as a catalyst for a healthy society.

**Register  
for free**



## Theme: From Heat Islands to Cool Cities and Neighbourhoods

Two Interreg projects – Cool Cities (North Sea Region) and Cool Neighbourhoods (North West Europe) – are joining forces for a joint Midterm Event in Middelburg! Both projects tackle urban heat stress from different perspectives and exchange experience and knowledge with GreenDense (North West Europe).

**Check our websites  
for more info**



**Interreg  
North Sea**



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North-West Europe**



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COOL CITIES

Cool Neighbourhoods