Management structure of SENSE

General Board

Prof. R. Leemans (WUR, Chair)
Prof. F. Berkhout (VU)
Prof. A.J. Hendriks (RUN)
Prof. A. Hoekstra (TU)
Prof. A. Stein (TU/ITC)
Prof. P. Lens (UNESCO-IHE)
Prof. P. Martens (MU)
Prof. H. Moll (RUG)
Dr. J. Parsons (UvA)
Prof. P. Perez Salgado (OU)
Prof. G. de Snoo (LU)
Prof. W.C. Turkenburg (UU)

Board of Directors

Prof. F. Biermann (VU, General Director)
Prof. E. Worrell (UU, Director of Research)
Dr. A. van Dommelen (VU, Director of Education)

Core Theme Chairs

Prof. J. de Boer (VU, Core theme 1)
Prof. A.J. Hendriks (RUN, Core theme 2)
Prof. C. Kroeze (OU/WUR, Core theme 3)
Prof. G. Spaargaren (WUR, Core theme 4)

Coordination

Mr. J. Feenstra (Coordinator Research and Education)
Dr. F. van der Woerd (Coordination Support)

Management Support

Drs. S. Stalpers (SENSE Education Desk)
Ir. M. Dannenburg (Communication and Website)
Ms. D. Hoonhout (Secretary Board of Directors)

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Partners in SENSE

Leiden University (LU)	*Institute of Environmental Sciences* (CML)
Maastricht University (MU)	*International Centre for Integrated assessment & Sustainable Development* (ICIS)
Radboud University Nijmegen (RU)	*Department of Environmental Science* (IWWR)
	Department of Ecology / Section Environmental Biology (IWWR)
Open University (OU)	*School of Science*
Planbureau voor de Leefomgeving (PBL)	*PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency*
UNESCO-IHE (Delft)	*Institute for Water Education*
University of Amsterdam (UvA)	*Institute for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Dynamics* (IBED)
University of Groningen (RUG)	*Center for Energy and Environmental Studies* (IVEM)
University of Twente (UT)	*Department of Water Engineering & Management*
	Faculty of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation (ITC)
Utrecht University (UU)	*Copernicus Institute for Sustainable Development and Innovation*
VU University Amsterdam (VU)	*Institute for Environmental Studies* (IVM)
	Institute of Ecological Science (IES)
Wageningen University (WUR)	*Wageningen Institute for Environment and Climate Research* (WIMEK)

Contact

For questions and feedback,
please go to: http://www.sense.nl/feedback
or to: http://www.sense.nl/contact

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To find more information about the partner institutes, the research programme, current PhD projects, the PhD course programme, environmental congresses, conferences and symposia, please visit: www.sense.nl.

To subscribe to the newsletter **SENSE *e*-News**, go to: www.sense.nl/newsletter.

SENSE

The Netherlands Research School for

Socio-Economic and Natural Sciences of the Environment

is a network for integrated environmental research and multidisciplinary PhD training, involving partners from twelve universities and institutes.

The VU University Amsterdam and Wageningen University cooperate as commissioners of the **SENSE** Research School.

All about SENSE at: www.sense.nl

SENSE is accredited by the
Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW)

About SENSE

The Research School for Socio-Economic and Natural Sciences of the Environment (**SENSE**) provides a disciplinary and multidisciplinary research programme aimed at advanced understanding of environmental problems and advanced training of PhD students in this field.
Established in 1994, **SENSE** has developed into a consortium of outstanding environmental research groups from eleven Dutch universities and institutes, covering a broad range of environmental disciplines, with contributions from the *natural sciences* (such as chemistry, biology, earth sciences, hydrology, environmental technology) and the *socio-economic sciences* (such as economics, sociology, political sciences, law).

SENSE was formally accredited by the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) for the period 1997–2001 and was subsequently re-accredited in 2002 and 2008.

The scientific mission of SENSE

- The scientific mission of the **SENSE** Research School is to develop and promote an integrated understanding of environmental change in terms of mechanisms that cause it and the consequences that result from it.
- To fulfil this mission, the combined programmes of research and education within **SENSE** are aimed at the development and further improvement of scientific concepts and methods that are required for an effective disciplinary and multidisciplinary understanding of environmental change.
- Research and education in **SENSE** are dedicated to developing high quality scientific results that may be applied to practically and critically inform sustainable environmental governance and decision-making.

Research Programme

The four Core themes each encompass specifically focused research clusters to adequately reflect the main research efforts of SENSE with regard to environmental changes:

Core 1. *Environmental contaminants and nutrients,* with research clusters on:
- *Behaviour, exposure and effects of environmental contaminants and nutrients;*
- *Ecological genomics;*
- *Biotechnological and physico-chemical processes for sustainable use and reuse of water, energy, materials and minerals;*
- *NanoSENSE (research on nano particles).*

Core 2. *Environmental change and ecosystem dynamics,* with research clusters on*:*
- *Ecosystem dynamics;*
- *Adaptation to environmental change;*
- *Landscape ecology, restoration ecology and nature conservation;*
- *Processes in soil, water and atmosphere;*
- *Land use, spatial analysis and modelling / ecosystem and landscape services.*

Core 3. *Global environmental change,* with research clusters on*:*
- *Global environmental change: pressure, state and impact;*
- *Managing global and climate change;*
- *Integrated assessment of global environmental change.*

Core 4. *Sustainable development and social change: actors, institutions and governance,* with research clusters on*:*
- *Governance for sustainable development;*
- *Industrial transformation / sustainable production and consumption / transitions to sustainability;*
- *Sustainable use and reuse of energy, material and resources / cradle to cradle approach.*

PhD Education

The objective of the SENSE PhD training programme is to train PhD students to become qualified scientific researchers with a developed capacity to:
- carry out scientific research in a systematic and productive way;
- work effectively and present the results of research to an international forum;
- contribute to an improved understanding of the causes, consequences and solutions of environmental issues;
- position their own research in a multidisciplinary context.

To meet these objectives, the PhD programme consists of:
- scientific research within one of the disciplines or interdisciplines covered by **SENSE**, resulting in a dissertation;
- an individual training programme with a limited number of multidisciplinary components.

For each PhD student in SENSE an Individual Training and Supervision Programme (ITSP) is designed that requires approval from the Director of Education. It covers a minimum of 30 ECTS (one ECTS is equivalent to a workload of 28 hours), including the following components:
- Environmental Research in Context (introductory course and individual follow-up activity);
- Specialised and multidisciplinary PhD courses;
- Personal development courses (to enhance professional and management skills);
- Research skills training.