

Testimonial of your short-term stay abroad

Please submit in English or otherwise in German. Please share your experiences on the following aspects of your stay. The provided bullets below serve as a guide to describe your stay abroad, please replace and use your own words. Please keep a max. of 400 characters per box. Please send back as a docx.-file.

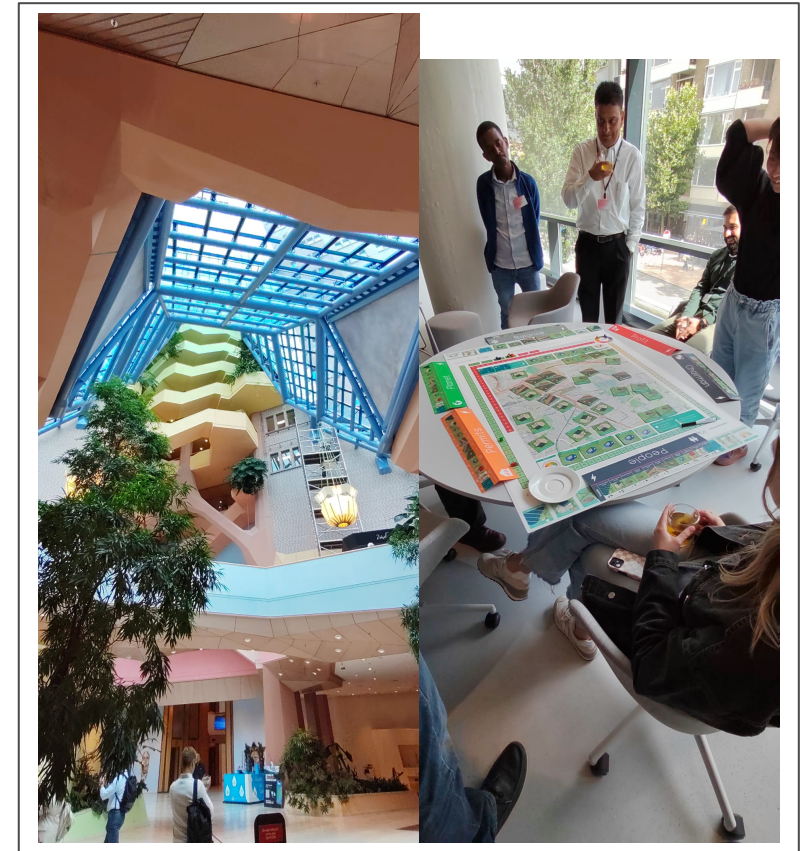
Stay details

- Lisa Geitner, lisa.geitner2000@gmail.com
- Master in Management and Engineering (WI)
- University of Groningen, "Energy challenge: An interdisciplinary approach"
- Groningen, Netherlands
- 1 week, August 2023

Preparation

How did you prepare your stay?

- Research of summer school programmes on the TH Rosenheim Website and on www.summerschoolsineurope.eu
- I found two programmes, one in Switzerland and one in the Netherlands that I was interested in (Renewable Energies). I applied for both. The school in Switzerland was more for PhD students and people who are currently writing their masters thesis which is why I wasn't selected. I got accepted to the one in the Netherlands and decided to go. An important part for me was that it's maximum two weeks in duration and not too expensive.
- Application process was easy, there were some forms on the website that needed to be filled out plus a short essay why I wanted to attend the summer school. The host university provided me with all the necessary information (Pre-Departure guide etc.).



Accommodation

How did you organise your accommodation?

- The university organised a hostel where we could all stay in, which was quite expensive. So I booked my own accommodation which was close to the other accommodation.
- Was the accommodation organised by the host university? Yes, but I chose to stay at another one.
- Where was your accommodation located? A 10 Minute Walk from the university and the city center of Groningen.
- How was the accommodation equipped? Did you share flats or rooms? The accommodation organised by the university used to be a student accommodation which has single rooms with en-suite bathrooms. I stayed in a hostel and shared a room and bathrooms with multiple people.

Programme at host university

How did you learn during your stay at the host university?

- There was a city walking tour and welcome drinks on our first day, so we really got to know each other and the program hosts. We had another introduction round on Monday morning.
- We had five lectures, played the WeEnergy Game, visited the company Gasunie, visited a hydrogen and renewable energy research center of the university. The learning environment was supportive and fun. The size of about 15 people and the excitement of all the participants added to the good work atmosphere.
- Our summer school host, Maaïke, was very supportive and nice. She was there with us all the time, so whenever we needed something we could just ask.
- We used a room which belongs to the school but is not technically on campus. We had WiFi (eduroam). On our last day we had the presentations in the academy building.
- It was a good combination of both – While it was challenging to have the different approaches to energy (legal, economic, technical, spatial, psychological), it was also very interesting. As I already had lectures in English (semester abroad in Galway), there was no big language barrier for me. I would definitely recommend the programme.



Leisure activities

How was your leisure time and what did you do?

- Yes, we had welcoming drinks and the walking tour, had dinner and drinks nearly every day together!
- In addition to the welcoming drinks, we had a closing dinner together and on our last day we visited the local market to get Stroopwafels. It was very familiar and nice to be there with everyone.
- There was enough time for group leisure activities, you could also use that time for personal activities but both would have been challenging.
- Groningen is a small city, I recommend staying in Amsterdam before or after the summer school for a couple of days. In Groningen you should see the Forum, go to the market and get a Stroopwafel, see the St. Martins tower, enjoy the vivid city and nightlife, walk or bike along the canal and do a city tour, Groningen has an interesting history!

Summary of the stay abroad

Overall, how do you look back on your stay abroad?

- I learned a lot during that programme. Not just theoretical information supplied by the lectures, but practical information about how the energy transition works in other countries. The communication with the other participants and the intensive work also helped my personal growth in terms of intercultural communication, language and time management.
- I learned a lot that I can use in my working student job. Some of the information can be transferred to my studies, yes.
- Which experiences will you remember in a positive way? Especially the people. We were all so passionate about the energy transitions. Even in our time off, we had intense discussions about energy topics and intercultural differences.

1 sentence summary: In this summer school I learned a lot and met the most amazing people from nearly every continent in the world who are very passionate about the energy transition and helped me grow personally and academically.

