



The DFG Research Training Group on Urban Water Interfaces (UWI) and the Colloquium Hydrosociences invite to a guest lecture by

**Dr. Jan Weijma**

**Department of Agrotechnology and Food Science, Environmental Technology, Wageningen University, The Netherlands**

**Thursday, 25 November 2021, 4:15 – 5:15 pm**

**via Zoom**

## **Lecture title: Nutrients in the city, from linear use to circular models**

### ***Abstract***

Sanitation systems in affluent countries were designed with the aim to protect humans and the environment from pathogens and pollutants, respectively. Sewers and municipal wastewater treatment plants are generally capable of reaching safety hygienic and environmental standards. Nowadays, scientists and policy makers suggest circularity as added design criterion for systems that convey substances in our society, including sanitation systems. This new criterion implies that, after use for food production and nutrition, nutrients should remain available for agricultural reuse on a human time-scale. This striving for circularity is driven amongst others, by the rising awareness that natural nutrient resources cannot endlessly be drained from the earth without jeopardizing human existence, regardless of the timing of specific scarcity threats. This lecture evaluates the options to restore the cycling of nutrients currently lost in the wastewater management system in affluent countries. This is not only done through the technological lens, as it also includes new systemic options that emerge when, gradually, the inert wastewater system is changed according to circular economy principles.

### ***About the speaker***

Jan Weijma is Researcher and Teacher at Wageningen University in the Netherlands. His interest is the recovery and recycling of material resources, especially metals (Copper, Zinc, Selenium) and nutrients (Nitrogen, Phosphorous).

### ***Join Zoom meeting:***

<https://tu-berlin.zoom.us/j/67994106312?pwd=aCsvgmdtMG9aSEMvTHg3eTZHMjZLUT09>

Meeting ID: 679 9410 6312, Passcode: 242917