



New polar expedition jackets

As the operator of the Netherlands Polar Programme, NWO has taken the initiative of providing Dutch polar researchers with appropriate gear for fieldwork. The jackets serve a twofold purpose: (1) to equip our researchers with comfort in the cold, and (2) to further the visibility of polar research.

Update 30 March 2022

Please also thoroughly read the user agreement

Third batch

This is the third time that the Netherlands Polar Programme is issuing expedition gear. Though great for light uses, the old model did not live up to polar standards, and in the meantime both NWO and the Netherlands Polar Programme adopted a new signature.

In the new model, user feedback from the two earlier designs has been taken into consideration, such as the pocket size (large), waist circumference and better waterproofness. This led us to the model “Fusion” of manufacturer Ansilta. This company provides professional outdoor gear to several organisations, including the Argentine Antarctic programme.

The jacket consists of an outer shell and inner puff that can be zipped on/off. Both have several large pockets. The outer shell is wind tight and waterproofed, the inner puff is for insulation. Combined, the jacket provides a three-season garment providing comfort down to ca. -20°C (without wind chill), with the expected number of layers beneath. Both inner and outer jacket feature a Dutch flag, name tag and the NWO, NPP and Ansilta logo.

A batch of 100 jackets was ordered:

- **65 male/unisex models**
- **35 women models**

This reflects the population of polar researchers in the Netherlands (although the current PhD cohort is close to 50-50!). Also, females often fit the straighter male model, vice versa is rare.



The inner jacket (puff)

Visibility

Besides providing warmth and shelter in cold conditions, the jackets make polar research more visible to the general audience. Use of the jackets therefore comes with certain conditions and kind requests, which are detailed in the user agreement that needs to be signed for each jacket. Besides the property of the jacket, it stipulates for example that all imprinted markings should be kept clear and be visual in the media.

NB. **Television crews** will often ask to hide logos and names, as (public) television is not always allowed to feature commercial logos. This is NOT the case for these polar jackets, as NWO is a non-commercial semi-

government organisation with a public task. We kindly ask users to instruct television crews, as they may habitually blur the markings.

Introduction of the new jacket

For SEES 2020/2022, we need at least 70 jackets in stock. Therefore, our issuing strategy depends on your participation in SEES, and until July 2022, will be conservative in handing out jackets to non-participants.

The jackets are primarily reserved for active Netherlands-based researchers for use on polar fieldwork and select key representatives of polar research. Due to limited stocks, priority is given to (in random order):

- (A) scientific participants of SEES 2022;
- (B) other researchers currently or in the recent past funded by the NPP and going on polar fieldwork in the upcoming season;
- (C) other researchers using the Dirck Gerritsz Lab, facilities of the British Antarctic Survey or Alfred Wegener Institute via the agreement with NWO/NPP in the upcoming season;
- (E) other active polar researchers based in the Netherlands.

After SEES.nl, we can arrange extended use if, for example, you are going on fieldwork multiple consecutive seasons, or if you have a high-visibility profile in the media or diplomacy. Otherwise you are required to hand back the jacket to NPP. Passing on the jacket to colleagues must be coordinated with the Netherlands Polar Programme. The jackets will remain property of NWO.

The listed sizes correspond quite well with the actual sizes. In other words, take your own sizes and we can send the right model by mail. The jackets can be picked up *on prior arrangement only* at NWO The Hague, where you will also be able to try and fit the right size. We can also arrange pick-up in Groningen, however, fitting and trying is not possible there.

You are responsible for ordering your own name tag. The Velcro strip measures 7.0 x 2.5 cm. Tip: order two per person – one for the inner and one for the outer jacket. Name tags could be made at your local shoe repair shop or locksmith.

Note on income tax

Because the jacket remains property of NWO, the jacket is not considered a valuable gift or income by the Tax Authority, and is therefore not taxed as such. You therefore do not need to include the jacket in your tax report.

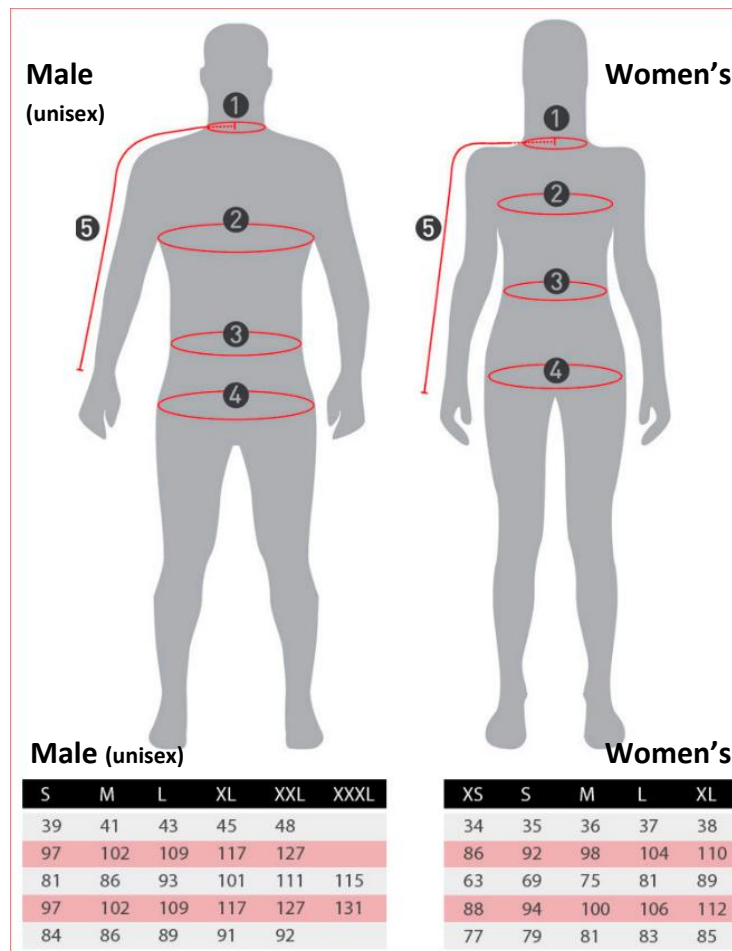
Use of old jackets

Old jackets may still be worn in low-visibility profiles. From a sustainability point of view it would be nonsensical to abandon these jackets, which are still ok for general use. However, we request you apply for the new model when appearing in high-visibility media, such as interviews and documentaries broadcast (inter)nationally.

Contact details

Contact person: Renno Hokwerda, programme coordinator NPP, +31 6 23625822, r.hokwerda@nwo.nl. Please CC npp@nwo.nl.

Next page: size table



The size table is for the inner puff. Please wear two or three base layers (or one thick sweater) when taking measurements.

The weight of the jacket is 1.2 kg (size M). It is insulated with goose down.

If ladies fit a straighter model jacket, do not hesitate to request one. Male and female jackets are visually not distinguishable, so no one will notice ;-)